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THE JERUSALEM POST

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Hamas murder suspects caught

LIAT COLLINS

THE General Security Service, the police, and IDF yesterday announced the capture of two Hamas men suspected of murdering Shimon Avraham from Moshav Meitar in the Tzfat area in September 1992. The two were apparently arrested last month.

The suspects, cousins Abed Shalabi and Mahmud Shalabi, both 25, are from Jenin. According to their confessions, the two prepared for the murder by visiting the area and purchasing kitchen knives. On the morning of the murder, they said they found Avraham working in his field and approached him on the pretext of asking for work, then stabbed him to death. They escaped in Avraham's car, but when it broke down abandoned it and fled on foot.



Youngsters practice their arts and crafts yesterday at 'Woodstone,' a festival of sculpture in the woods. The event, which attracted some 10,000 people to the President's Park near the Nahshon Junction, featured the Jewish National Fund inaugurating 16 new sculptures placed among the trees, including those by celebrated artists. One successful workshop taught youngsters to create their own art out of natural materials found in the forest. (Joe Malcolin)

Rabin: I don't fear physical attack

Blames Likud for inciting violence

SARAH HONIG

"I AM not afraid personally," Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin stressed yesterday regarding the possibility of violence against him by anti-government protesters.

"I will not run away and they will not silence me," Rabin directly blamed the Likud for what he labeled "right-wing violence." The Likud, he said, provides the background and inspiration for those who would attack him and his ministers.

A similar accusation came from Histadrut chairman Haim Ramon. Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu retorted that the Labor side is exhibiting "colossal hypocrisy" and attempting to divert attention from its policies and their

popularity. Netanyahu called last night for Rabin to meet with him to sort out the situation.

Speaking live on Army Radio, Rabin said, "The Likud provides extremists with inspiration. It cannot wash its hands of this and claim it has nothing to do with it. It creates the background of verbal violence. The Likud speaks such extreme language, the likes of which has not been heard for a very long time. It's enough to hear the sort of speeches its leaders deliver in the Knesset, and the rhetoric they utter in rallies and meetings. It's enough to see the placards and the displays they exhibit at their gatherings to see who is behind what is happening."

"I am concerned in general, but not about me personally," Rabin said. "I went through much more difficult experiences in the army—shelling, shooting, and such. It doesn't seem to me to be a personal problem as much as a grave public phenomenon."

Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish made similar accusations on Wednesday against the Likud, depicting the outbursts against Rabin as "fascist."

Ramon argued in the same vein yesterday, asserting that "the problem is not the various little hoodlums who do the screaming and the heckling. The big problem lies elsewhere. It rests squarely with the Likud, because it is the Likud and no other which provides the political umbrella for those

(Continued on Page 18)

Peres, Arafat to sort out pullout timetable

DAVID MAKOVSKY and HILLEL KUTTLER

PALESTINIAN Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's letter to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin complaining about the pace of implementation of the Oslo 2 agreement should be seen as Arafat's "switching into the elections mode" before Palestinian self-rule balloting takes place in January, a Western diplomat said.

Arafat appeared to go public with his criticism at the same time he was informing Rabin. The Arab media was told Wednesday night of the letter of complaint Arafat had just faxed Rabin. Arab newspapers published Arafat's criticism yesterday, which is when Rabin first heard of it.

"In Washington, Arafat knew how to speak to the White House audience, even though his speech was given in Arabic. Now he is back in Gaza, and he knows how to adapt quicker than anyone to the domestic conditions and the upcoming Palestinian elections," the diplomat said.

An official in the Prime Minister's Office added, "What we are discovering is that Yasser Arafat acts as if he has priorities."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who met with Rabin yesterday on the subject of implementation, phoned Arafat last night to clarify matters. He is to meet with Arafat on Sunday.

PA Spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh said Peres called to set the meeting and Arafat accepted.

(Continued on Page 18)

Mashina bids farewell

OVER 50,000 fans watched Israel's most popular rock band, Mashina, give its final performance last night at Tel Aviv's Park Harkon.

The band dedicated its concert to the three youths who were killed in the stampede at last summer's Arad Festival, at what was supposed to be Mashina's final appearance. Last night their relatives were guests of the band, whose members have spoken out on the need for stricter procedures at mass events.

Magen David Adom treated 125 concertgoers, mostly for fainting. Four were taken to Ichilov Hospital for treatment.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Dole preparing compromise bill on embassy move

HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

SENATE majority leader Robert Dole is preparing a compromise to his bill mandating a move of the US Embassy to Jerusalem that would strip requirements that construction begin by next May, sources here said.

Dole introduced the bill last May, but it was criticized by the Clinton administration and liberal Jewish groups for forcing the White House's hand and potentially upsetting Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Dole and Senator Joseph Lieberman, a Democrat from Connecticut, have now altered the bill to eliminate language calling for groundbreaking for the embassy to occur by May 1996, when Israeli-Palestinian final-status talks are to begin.

The changes, which could be announced today, are seen as an

(Continued on Page 18)

Christopher drops plans for Jerusalem-Damasacus shuttle

HILLEL KUTTLER and DAVID MAKOVSKY

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher will not be going to Israel or Syria on his upcoming trip to the region, the State Department said yesterday, adding that he is unlikely to make another shuttle until he is persuaded his presence in Damascus and Jerusalem "would make a difference," department spokesman Nicholas Burns told reporters.

It had been speculated that Christopher, who will be heading the US delegation to the Amman economic conference that begins October 29, would also visit Damascus and Jerusalem to push ahead the stalled Israeli-Syrian talks.

US peace team coordinator Dennis Ross will meet with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara in New York this week, and it was thought that following that meeting a Christopher trip could be announced.

But the US officially nixed that possibility yesterday, saying that immediately after the Amman event Christopher must return to the US to open the Balkan peace summit.

According to diplomatic sources in Jerusalem yesterday, Syrian President Hafez Assad demonstrated no new flexibility in his peace demands from Israel during his meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Damascus earlier this week.

Sources say Assad reiterated his demand for a return to the June 4, 1967, borders, and not the international boundary of 1948 just eastward advocated by some officials in Israel. Furthermore, privately as publicly, Assad railed against the proposition of Israel manning early warning stations on the Golan.

(Continued on Page 18)

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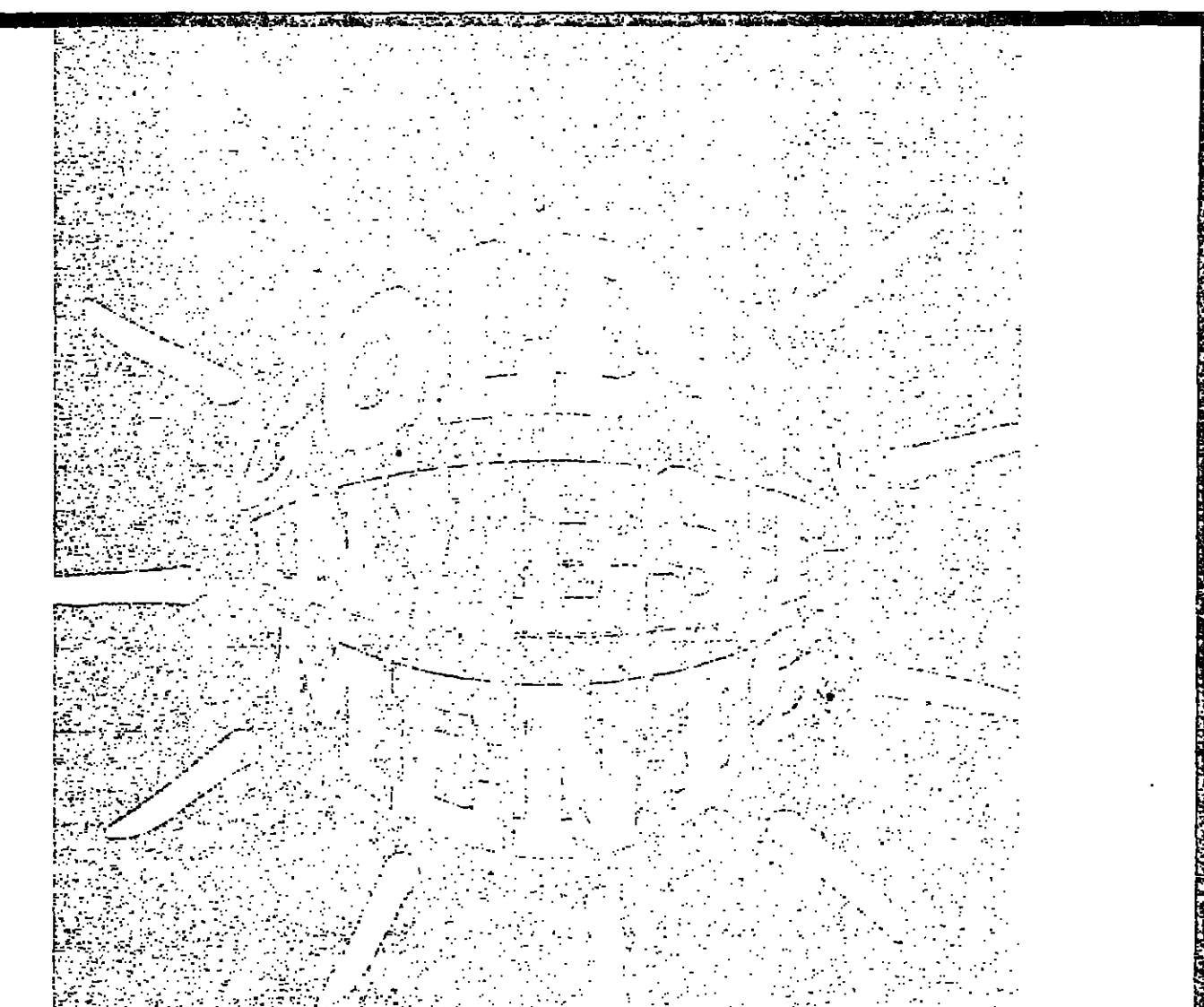
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Hamas denies agreeing to participate in elections

HAMAS denied yesterday it had decided to participate in Palestinian elections in the territories.

"We deny this... this is not true," Hamas spokesman Ibrahim Ghosheh said when asked about remarks by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat that Hamas would take part in the vote for an 82-member Palestinian Council.

"Hamas's position vis-a-vis the elections, as reached by the Shura institutions, is clear in that we reject participation in these elections, and this decision remains valid up to this moment," Ghosheh said.

He said Hamas rejects the ballot, because "it is in implementation of the Oslo accord and because the Zionist occupation will

be the reference for the elected council."

But a Hamas spokesman in Gaza said he did not rule out the possibility of participating in the election.

Palestinians in Gaza said the apparent discrepancy was due to differences within Hamas.

"The most important thing is that they have a decision to participate with all their capability in all political procedures including the elections," Arafat told reporters in Gaza.

Arafat did not clarify who made the decision for Hamas to participate in the elections.

A Palestinian spokesman said

the Palestinian Authority and Hamas have also made progress toward a cease-fire agreement.

Under the proposed agreement, Hamas was expected to call a halt to attacks on Israelis.

The two sides agreed to intensify negotiations in the coming days, said Arafat's spokesman Marwan Kanafani.

He said an agreement would be negotiated by all Palestinian political factions and have the blessing of the self-rule government.

Mahmoud Zahhar, a top political leader of Hamas, said Hamas will form a delegation that would represent Palestinians from the territories and refugees abroad to

negotiate with the PA in an Arab country, probably Egypt. He said locating the meeting abroad was to avoid "pressures and to have witnesses."

He said he hopes the two sides would reach an agreement "in the next few weeks." Zahhar, who was freed from a PLO jail Sunday, said earlier that more Hamas leaders are to be released in a week to 10 days.

Hamas delegates returning from mediation talks in Sudan reported in statement issued Wednesday night that the meetings were "positive and fruitful."

Kanafani denied reports quoting Arafat as saying the two sides had finalized a deal. He said the dialogue was continuing.

IDF blows up suspected Hizbullah hideout

IDF TROOPS have blown up a deserted house on the outskirts of Tibnit village, just north of the security zone, following a clash in the area early Wednesday morning in which a Nahal Brigade soldier was badly wounded and an Hizbullah gunman was killed.

Sgt. Itai Tsuk, 20, from Herzliya, suffered head wounds during the clash and is in the neuro-surgery intensive care unit of Haifa's Rambam Hospital.

Deputy hospital director Dr. Zvi Ben-Isai said the soldier was on a respirator and had still not regained consciousness. His condition remained serious, but stable.

Reports from Lebanon said IDF troops returned to the scene of the clash on the outskirts of Tibnit, in the eastern sector, late on Wednesday night and destroyed an empty house suspected of being an Hizbullah hideout.

A large quantity of arms was discovered in the area not far from the building, in which members of the Hizbullah squad had taken cover during and after the clash.

DAVID RUDGE

Hizbullah issued a statement saying its gunmen had opened fire at the IDF troops when they blew up the deserted house. They also fired several mortar and RPG rounds at two nearby South Lebanese Army positions, inside the zone, sparking a prolonged exchange of fire, but no casualties.

Lebanese radio stations reported that IDF bulldozers leveled several deserted homes near the Beit Yahoun crossing point, in the western sector of the zone, earlier this week.

The move, according to the reports, followed a roadside bomb blast near the site 10 days ago in which three Lebanese civilians, one of them a woman, were killed.

The reports said the Beit Yahoun crossing point has remained closed since the October 3 bomb attack.

More fighting was reported yesterday morning around Rashaf, also in the western sector of the zone, although there were no reports of any casualties in that incident.

Fatah Hawks execute man

News agencies

TWO members of the Fatah Hawks yesterday executed a construction worker in Nablus's Palestine Square, handcuffed and blindfolded him, led him to the courtyard of an old mosque, then fired a volley of bullets into him in front of a number of spectators.

"Sanir Alkourdi, 35, yelled out, 'I'm innocent,' as he was cut

down, then died on the way to Rafidiya Hospital. He was the second person killed in four months in Nablus by the Fatah Hawks, a gang loosely affiliated with Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction of the PLO.

There was no indication why Alkourdi was killed. Witnesses said he cried, "This is not justice. This is injustice," as he was led to his death.

When a shopkeeper asked one of the gunmen why they shot Alkourdi, he said, "We don't know. [Hawks leader] Ahmed Tabouk sent us" and did not explain what Alkourdi was accused of. He said Tabouk "asked us to arrest and shoot him."

Mohammed Sayyed, 32, was shot and killed by the Hawks in June, Palestinian reports said. Five people were wounded in recent weeks by the group, including Sa'id Kalbani, 30, who was shot in the kneecaps on Wednesday, a day after he was released from prison.

Nablus journalists said Alkourdi had no known criminal links.



Four of the hundreds of participants in this year's fourth 'Tour d'Israel' bicycle race from Metulla to Eilat pose yesterday morning before beginning the Tel Aviv to Mitzpe Ramon leg. This morning the three-day, 600-kilometer race concludes in Eilat. (Ilan Cassandryev/Israel Sun)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sailor's body recovered from shipwreck

One of three bodies recovered this week from the wreck of the *Mineral Dampier* has been identified as that of Chief Cook Amram Atlas, 60, of Haifa, the Transportation Ministry announced. Divers found Atlas's body on the deck of the ship, while the other two bodies, those of a Filipino engineer and a Romanian seaman, were found in the crew's quarters. Arrangements are being made to send Atlas's body home for burial.

Since the *Mineral Dampier* collided with a Korean freighter and sank on June 22, divers have recovered 11 bodies of the 27-member crew, five of them Israelis. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Gynecologist held after aborted woman dies

A Beersheba gynecologist was remanded yesterday on suspicion of causing the death of Ella Kreines, 24, by performing an illegal abortion on her. Dr. Alik Elayev was ordered held until Sunday to enable the police to complete their investigation.

He admitted performing the procedure last Friday, but denied that Kreines' death on Tuesday was connected to it, noting that as a doctor at Soroka Hospital with 20 years' seniority he had carried out hundreds of similar operations with no such complications. Judge Tohar Shahaf denied a defense request for house arrest, saying an autopsy had indicated other reasons for the victim's death than that suggested by the doctor's lawyer.

IDF cadets finish course to work with PA

Fifteen officer cadets yesterday graduated from the IDF's first coordination and liaison training course for work with the Palestinian Authority. They are to be stationed in joint district coordination offices throughout Judea and Samaria as redeployment progresses.

"You are the first soldiers who will implement the Oslo 2 agreement in the field," Deputy Coordinator of Activities in the Territories Brig.-Gen. Baruch Spiegel told the new officers at the graduation ceremony. The graduates, infantry officers handicapped for the course, underwent intensive Arabic language training as well as courses in history, sociology, and Islam. *Alon Pinkas*

US goods get free access to PA areas

The Palestinian Authority has pledged unrestricted access for American products in the territories, US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor said yesterday. Kantor told reporters in Washington this promise will be contained in a letter he will be given by the PA during his visit to the region next week. He said it was a natural outcome of the US eliminating tariffs on goods exported from the Palestinian zones.

The letter will also contain the PA's pledge to work to eliminate the Arab League boycott entirely, not only the secondary and tertiary boycotts. *Hillel Kuttler*

5 Palestinians held in death of American

FIVE Palestinians, including security agents, have been detained in the death of a Palestinian-American who died in custody last month, a senior Palestinian official said yesterday.

Investigators will also exhumate the body of the man, Azzam Musleh, to determine the cause of his death, Attorney-General Khalid al-Qidrah told The Associated Press.

Meanwhile, the head of the Preventive Security Service, Col. Jibril Rajoub, said that six security agents were sentenced Wednesday night to jail terms of two weeks to one month for mistreating prisoners.

Palestinian security agents initially said that Musleh died of a stroke, but an AP reporter who viewed Musleh's body before the funeral last month saw signs of beatings, including welts, cuts and bruises on the face.

Musleh's son, Shaheed, said his father also suffered cigarette burns over his back and legs.

Musleh, 52, immigrated to the United States in 1970 and owned a supermarket in Dallas. He was picked up by Palestinian security agents last month while playing cards in a coffee shop in his home village of Ein Yabrud.

The agents drove Musleh to Jericho, and he was dead within 30 hours of his arrest.

Al-Qidrah said at the time that Musleh was questioned about suspicions that he headed a burglary ring and about the killing of a clan member in 1992.

Musleh became the fifth Palestinian to die in Palestinian detention since Palestinian self-rule began in the Gaza Strip and Jericho in May 1994. (AP)

Beilin shrugs off critical lobbying by US Jews

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

AMERICAN Jews who lobby in Congress against the policies of the Israeli government are perfectly within their rights, Economics Minister Yossi Beilin told Israeli reporters here yesterday.

Beilin did say the criticism "annoys me." Nevertheless, he said, "it's legitimate.... Regarding American Jews - I want them to express their opinions, even if it's opposed to my policies."

Two weeks ago by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, criticized American Jews who lobby against the government's policies.

Winning tickets

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 752640 won NIS 1,000,000.

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Kach man suspected of damaging Rabin's car out on bail

ALON PINKAS and news agencies

THE Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday ordered the release on bail of Kach movement youth coordinator Itamar Ben-Gvir, who was arrested on suspicion of damaging Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's official car at a demonstration last week.

A police representative told the court that Ben-Gvir, 20, had been at the demonstration last Thursday when Rabin's car was vandalized, and had then appeared on television brandishing the metal ornament that had been torn from the hood of the Cadillac limousine.

"He was photographed with the ornament," said the police representative, "and he declared that, if they could get to the ornament, they could get to the prime minister." He asked the court to remand Ben-Gvir for another eight days.

Ben-Gvir's attorney denied his client had taken the ornament, saying he had found it on the ground when he arrived at the demonstration.

Judge Phillip Marcus determined that, in the light of weak police evidence, he was ordering Ben-Gvir released on NIS 6,000 bail pending the completion of the investigation. He also barred the suspect from participating in demonstrations during the coming weeks.

The protection of the prime



Kach youth coordinator Itamar Ben-Gvir (center) is escorted by two policemen to his remand hearing yesterday at Jerusalem Magistrate's Court. (Brian Hendler)

minister and senior ministers has been recently tightened, but is not extraordinary, a senior security official said yesterday.

The General Security Service has added more manpower when Rabin and other ministers attend

public events, but the source said there are no "specific leads indicating intent to harm them."

The source conceded that the GSS department responsible for Jewish affairs is "taking with grave seriousness" any informa-

tion that points to incitement to violence against officials, but "the GSS cannot, will not and is not legally authorized to follow every individual who waves a banner and has been heard wishing Rabin would die."

Weizman reaffirms his stand on peace process

BATSHEVA TSUR

PRESIDENT Ezer Weizman, seeking to allay fears expressed by a Peace Now delegation, yesterday affirmed his support for the peace process.

But Weizman said he would not change his mind about refusing to sign the releases of two Palestinian women prisoners.

"I told the delegation that they had come too late [for me to change my mind]," said Weizman, after meeting the Peace Now group for 1½ hours at Beit Hanassi. "I have made my decision and I will not change it."

Weizman said that what interested him at this point was the question of how the final agreement between Israel and the Pa-

estianians would take form.

Earlier this week, Economics Minister Yossi Beilin appeared to link the release of the two women with the annulment of the Palestinian Covenant's clause calling for the destruction of Israel.

At a Jerusalem news conference on Tuesday with PA Minister of Planning Nabil Shaath, Beilin said that the Palestinians were aware that the president had the prerogative to veto the prisoners' release just as the PNC had to make the decision to annul the covenant.

Shaath said the covenant

would be rescinded within two months of the Palestinian elections, when representatives from the territories would be able to sit on the PNC.

"We came to the president because we had a feeling, judging by the statements emanating from Beit Hanassi, that he was moving to the right," Peace Now leader Tsali Reshef said yesterday. "But we found that in 99 percent of his statements the president backs the peace warmly. This is not the impression which the public is getting."

Weizman took the opportunity to announce that he would host a dialogue between Israeli and Arab youth at Beit Hanassi.

Ben-Eliezer slams Peace Now report

LIAT COLLINS

HOUSING Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer strongly attacked the Peace Now report on building in the territories, calling it "grossly irresponsible" and "highly inaccurate."

According to the report, 1,400 new housing units have been started since the beginning of the year in Jewish settlements over the Green Line, most of them in the Greater Jerusalem area.

The group said this is the largest number of building starts in the territories in three years. Altogether, 6,000 housing units are

under construction in Jewish settlements over the Green Line, the group said. The construction, both private and public, is intended to house 25,000 people.

Most of the housing criticized in the report is in the Jerusalem area, Ben-Eliezer said, noting that the construction in Ma'aleh Adumim, Betar and Givat Ze'ev had been approved by the special ministerial committee established to supervise building there.

"I'm proud to be providing

homes," Ben-Eliezer said yesterday. He accused the group of creating a possible international backlash against housing in parts of Jerusalem such as Pisgat Ze'ev and nearby towns like Ma'aleh Adumim.

Apart from objecting to the contents of the report, which he called "false," the minister also attacked the group for publishing it at a news conference Wednesday before he had seen a copy of it.

He said the US Embassy had asked to clarify details.

Iraqi defectors file suit

RAINE MARCUS and ALON PINKAS

THIRTY Iraqi citizens and one Iranian who fled their native countries and have requested political asylum here filed a NIS 6 million lawsuit against the Interior Ministry in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.

The plaintiffs - via their lawyers, Zvi Rish and Ira Reder - claim that the Interior Ministry has no right to keep them in prison and is violating their right to freedom. Their status as refugees obliges the state to grant them political asylum, at least temporarily, the lawsuit said.

Some said they were tortured by the General Security Service here after their arrival. Some have been here for more than three years.

Around two months ago Police Minister Moshe Shabai visited the refugees and promised to do everything he could to help them. Several were due to be released to Gaza, but no solution has been found for others. An army

source confirmed last night that Israel may grant citizenship to the prisoners if the Palestinian Authority refuses to accept them. An Interior Ministry source said the issue will probably be dealt with only following a ruling on the suit. But the army source, who is familiar with the prisoners, said the defectors committed no offense that warrants further imprisonment.

Right-wing holds solidarity meet

LIAT COLLINS

MEMBERS of right-wing non-parliamentary groups called for mass civil disobedience yesterday at a meeting in Jerusalem's Great Synagogue. Among the suggestions: boycotting the impending population census.

Hundreds of members of more than 15 groups including Women in Green; Yesha, the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza; The Yesha

Rabbinical Council; Hai ve-Kayam; Zo Artzeinu; and others ranging from moderate to the far-right attended the meeting, billed as a Jewish Solidarity Rally.

The idea of refusing to participate in the population census, an offense punishable by three months imprisonment, was proposed by, among others, academic Eli Pollack.

Anti-government wolves protest in sheep's clothing

LIAT COLLINS and Tim

THE demonstrators said "baa" rather than "boo," but their message was the same: "We won't go like lambs to slaughter."

It was under this slogan that Zo Artzeinu demonstrators led scores of sheep to the plaza outside Jerusalem's Hamashbir yesterday in a gimmicky protest against the Oslo Accords.

Human and animal demonstrators alike wore Zo Artzeinu T-shirts.

"Rabin is leading us like sheep to the slaughter and therefore we

decided we would illustrate that visually," said protester Stephanie Glick.

Fifteen rented sheep on leashes and 100 demonstrators blocked morning traffic at an intersection in downtown Jerusalem for a few chaotic minutes, before police succeeded in carrying, dragging and shoving the sheep and demonstrators out of the road.

"The point of the rally is to make the government look stu-

pid. Let them arrest you with the sheep," said protest leader Shmuel Sackett. No arrests were made.

Police seemed taken by surprise when the group tried to block the main road, but no one could accuse the demonstrators of violence.

In fact, several stubbornly refused to take part in the act of civil disobedience and stuck to the sidewalk where their human counterparts accused them of being "Leftists."

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An execution to ponder

CONSTRUCTION worker Samir Al-kourdi, led yesterday to a mosque courtyard in Nablus and shot repeatedly in the knees and stomach by two Fatah Hawks, was not the first Arab to be killed by the Palestinian Authority's unofficial "enforcers." According to Palestinian sources, at least 50 men have been "executed" by Fatah Hawks and other elements of the PA's security services since the Oslo accord was signed two years ago.

This kind of killing is not considered terrorism by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin - he has repeatedly asserted that Yasser Arafat's Fatah no longer practices terrorism - but it is difficult to find a more accurate appellation for such deeds. The Hawks are Yasser Arafat's private militia, whose function is to show the Arab population who is boss. And the purpose of the executions, often preceded by unspeakable torture, is to establish a reign of terror in the territories, not unlike that which existed in the PLO minstate in southern Lebanon before 1982.

The Hawks say their targets are "collaborators," but that is only because Palestinians consider killing collaborators an irreproachable national duty. Many of the victims have no connection with Israel; often their only crime is that they belong to rival factions or that they show little enthusiasm for Arafat. In at least one known case, a businessman was executed after a "contract" on his life was issued by an embittered former partner, who happened to be a friend of the PA's Preventive Security chief in Jericho.

That the government is indifferent to such goings-on - even when kidnappings, torture and executions occur in Jerusalem - reflects its general attitude to the nascent PLO state. The only thing that seems to matter in Jerusalem is cutting a deal with Palestinians willing to make an agreement with Israel. Palestinians who promise to refrain from attacking Jews are ipso facto acceptable partners, and if they actively cooperate in preventing others from killing Israelis they are deemed worthy allies, regardless of what methods they use.

It is only in this context that the government's approval of the entry into the territories of two of Fatah's most notorious leaders can be understood. Mustafa Liftawi and Mahmoud Aloul, who arrived in Gaza on Tuesday, are personally responsible for some of the most heinous crimes against Israelis. They will be appointed

governors of the Ramallah and Nablus areas, and with hundreds of other members of Fatah's "military wing," also due to return soon, they are expected to combat Islamic terrorism.

The official rationalization for their appointment is that no one can fight terror more efficiently than arch-terrorists. (It makes one wonder when Carlos will be called to join the ranks of PA officers.) But the real reason for Israel's consent to accept them as the military bosses of large parts of the self-rule areas is transparent: at last the dream of having the PLO combat terrorists "without the interference of the High Court and human rights organizations," as Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin once put it, will presumably come true.

That in the process innocent people like Al-kourdi and hundreds of others may be brutally executed without trial seems irrelevant. The main thing is that there is an efficient killing machine across the lines which can prevent attacks on Israelis.

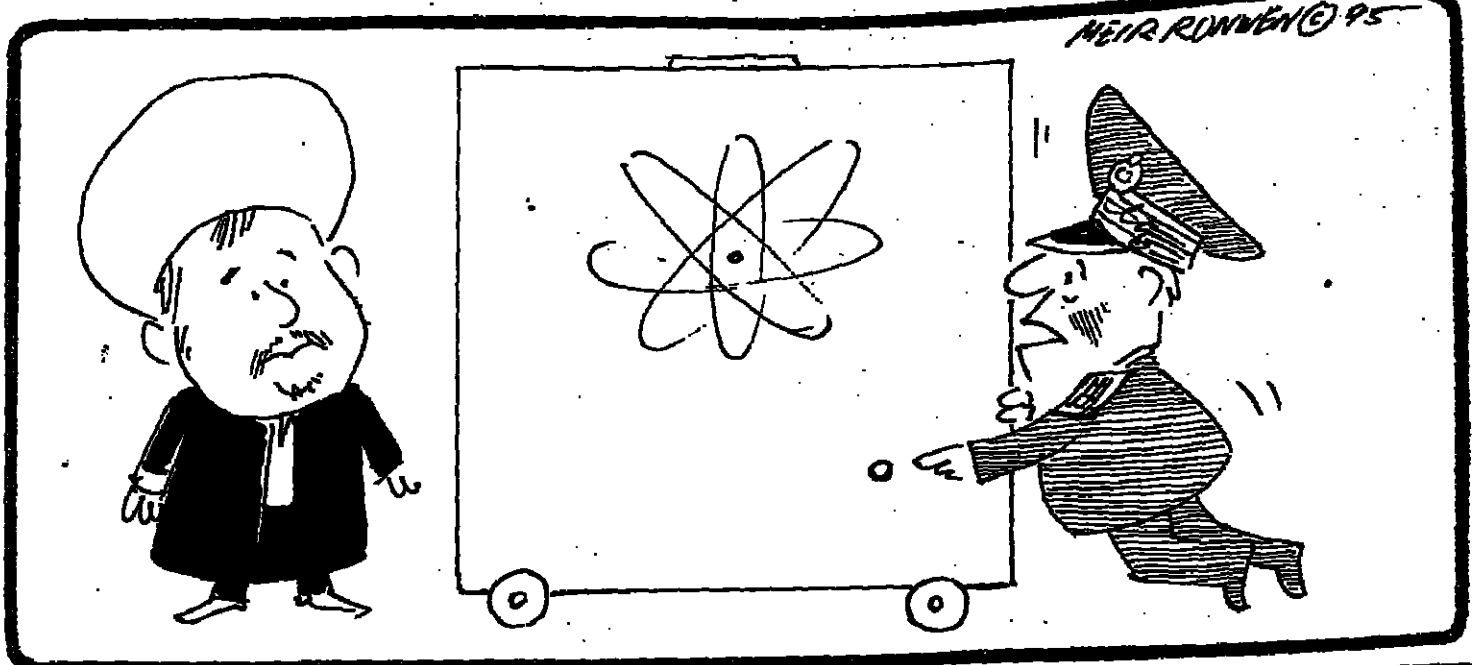
Leaving aside the moral bankruptcy such an expectation reflects, the chances that a terrorist police state will live up to this kind of bargain are nil. Arafat will undoubtedly use the forces Israel is putting at his disposal to rid himself of competition, and he may even use them to regulate terrorism so that the killing will not become intolerable and turn a large majority of Israelis against the Oslo agreements. But once his rule is established, the terrorist chieftains who now run his army will revert to fighting Israelis, this time with better weapons and from far more advantageous positions than ever.

Even the government seems wary of what would happen when the PA takes over in the major population centers of Judea and Samaria. Knowing that as soon as the army departs, towns like Jenin, Kalkilya, and Tulkarm will most likely turn into launching pads and shelters for terrorists, the government is deliberately dragging its feet.

It now says it is obligated to "redeploy" only before the Palestinian elections. And knowing that Arafat is less eager to hold elections than he professes to be, the government is hoping that no major army withdrawal will have to be effected for a long time.

The only problem with this foot-dragging is that Palestinian expectations for immediate withdrawal have been built up to fever pitch. What the consequences of a long delay will be is anyone's guess.

'Now whatever you do, don't press this little red button!'



Minefield ahead in Barcelona

MOSHE ZAK

THE president of one of the Asian states of the CIS recently summoned an Israeli Foreign Ministry envoy, requesting urgent assistance in Washington. The US government had halted economic aid to his country, claiming that his regime was undemocratic since it had banned the distribution of an opposition newspaper.

The angry president called on the local Jewish community to witness that what had been banned was not an opposition newspaper, but an antisemitic periodical spouting anti-Israel propaganda and accusing the Jews of conspiracy.

The representative from Jerusalem departed for Washington with this information, and succeeded in persuading the American government to reinstate economic aid to the country in question.

This sort of thing doesn't happen every day. But we have a variation on the theme: Jordan is currently requesting F-16 fighters from the US, and needs Israel's recommendation.

Thirty years ago, when the US wanted to supply tanks to the Hashemite Kingdom, Israel insisted as a condition that King Hussein undertake not to deploy the tanks west of the Jordan River. This constituted a kind of partial demilitarization agreement on the West Bank, which Hussein was unable to stick to in the days leading up to the Six Day War.

Good-neighbored relations since the peace treaty have prevented Israel setting conditions on Jordanian rearmament, and, indeed, Israel has given its blessing to the US plan to modernize Hussein's army.

So far, so good. But our government has volunteered other recommendations that go beyond its capability, and sometimes even act

against its own long-term interests.

The extravagance with which our government solicits contributions to the Palestinian Authority culminated in a ridiculous offer: to divert funds raised by Israel Bonds for developing Israel to the development of lands under PA jurisdiction. Luckily, Finance Minister Shohat vetoed the proposal, and it never got off the ground.

The government rains compliments on Egypt as though that country had contributed to our drive for peace with other Arab states, and continues to do so;

Israeli-Palestinian projects, is liable to influence the Americans as well.

If the government manages to persuade Congress to lift all restrictions on aid to the PA, it is quite possible that the money given to the Palestinians will get deducted from aid to Israel.

The long-term effects of this largesse must be considered. If we manage to increase the standard of living of the Palestinians in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, we may save them from starvation - but we will have made those areas a magnet

Israel offers its good offices gratis to Palestinians, Egyptians, Europeans

Israel gives uncritical support to the European Union in its attempts to ensure itself official status in reshaping the region;

Our Foreign Ministry has a habit of asking every visiting European foreign minister to mediate between Israel and Syria, when the main channel is via the US.

IMPLEMENTING the interim agreement will cost hundreds of millions of shekels, taking into account the increase in reserve duty and the need to construct bypass roads. It used to be thought that we could call on foreign assistance to meet this expense - but our government has taught other countries that the top priority for peace is financial assistance to the Palestinians.

The agreement recently concluded with Germany, stating that from next year on financial aid to Israel will be redirected to joint

for Palestinians in the Arab countries. Instead of two million Palestinians west of the Jordan, there will be four million squeezed into a tiny pressure cooker, undermining stability on our borders.

As for Egypt, Awarat Sadat's pioneering breakthrough to peace was totally admirable. Which is more than can be said for the current Egyptian involvement in our negotiations with Yasser Arafat. This involvement serves only the PLO, and assists Egypt's own campaign against Israel.

Egypt benefits from generous American aid thanks to its ties with Israel, but it isn't satisfied with getting almost as much aid as Israel does. In the guise of achieving total parity, it wants aid to Israel reduced. Egypt also attempted to force Israel to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and got the Gulf states to hold

back on normalization of relations with Israel.

To put it bluntly, there is no reason for Israel to act as Egypt's advocate internationally, helping it achieve a permanent seat in the Security Council.

As for the EU, Israel has got all excited over an invitation, alone out of all the Mediterranean countries, to participate in the upcoming Barcelona Congress. The government sees this invitation as a sign of breaking ice between Israel and its neighbors (Syria is also attending the congress). It feels that Israel's long isolation is coming to an end. But it isn't.

The Israeli and Syrian delegations will certainly sit in the same hall, under the same roof, but the agenda being prepared is liable to emphasize Israel's isolation, not end it.

Even though the US Sixth Fleet, stationed in the Mediterranean, is the mainstay of peace in the region, the US will not be participating in the congress. It will thus be unable to deliver us from our isolation, as it did at the UN special conference in New York last spring, when Israel faced Arab and European pressure to sign the NPT. In Barcelona, where the issue will be raised again, Israel will find itself lonely in the crowd.

And what, anyway, do we stand to gain from this congress, whose sole purpose is to weaken the barriers between Europe and the Mediterranean countries, and increase European influence in the region?

Before dealing Europe such a strong card, Israel would be advised to settle accounts with the EU on a few basic issues. Jerusalem first and foremost.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

REAL DEMOCRACY

Sir, - In Prime Minister Rabin's New Year interview with David Makovsky (September 24), he makes mention of American Jews. I agree with him that American Jews have no right to interfere with the direction that Israel chooses to take, especially on questions of war and peace. But then he goes too far.

When he says "they have no means to act, as Americans, against the policy of the government of Israel," he is showing his total ignorance of the basic principles of democracy. American citizens have the right and obligation to let their government know their opinions and thoughts on all questions that concern the policy and actions of the US government. As such, they have all the right in the world to petition the US government concerning America's dealings with Israel. If they are not in agreement with current US policy concerning the Oslo agreements, they have complete liberty and right to tell their government so.

While Americans may have no right to tell us what to do, they do have the right to tell their government what to do. This is democracy. The prime minister is known as a great admirer of the US, but his admiration must be very limited to certain areas.

While it is certainly true that Prime Minister Rabin is legally the head of Israel's government, it is equally true that he does not have even a bare majority of the people behind him. He feels that he has no need for consensus and so he again betrays his subterfuge that he is a democrat. Democracy is not only majority rule, it is real concern for the minority. Instead of talking the trouble and time to really talk to us, Rabin tells us that only he knows what is good for us and that he's going ahead whether we like it or not. This is not democracy.

The worn-out phrase, "Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East," has become bankrupt under Rabin's government. The army is not a democratic institution and it is obvious that Rabin's style of leadership has never progressed beyond the style of a commanding officer. It would be good for us to remember this when former generals seek to become prime minister and promise us "democratic government."

ELIYAHU BEN-HAIM
Jerusalem

ETHIOPIAN JEWS

Sir, - Rabbi Micha Odenheimer's letter of September 15, "Ethiopian Immigrants," is yet another attempt to add confusion to a very sensitive and pressing issue. This irresponsible gibberish by the director of the Israel Association for Ethiopian Jews only hurts these olim and stigmatizes them unnecessarily, thus branding them without justification as underachievers at the bottom of the social ladder.

In his scathing and unfounded criticism of the Ministry of Education's extensive efforts to improve the educational level of Ethiopian Jews, Rabbi Odenheimer fails to mention his organization's use of slipshod methods of statistics, including manipulation and distortion.

The Israel Association for Ethiopian Jews has a well-earned reputation for baseless and reckless claims that seem to have an agenda other than social-based. Take for example its "statistic" on Ethiopian reading comprehension. The association took a Ministry of Education statistic on reading comprehension in six schools, and used this figure to come up with a ridiculous "national wide" figure on reading levels. This figure in no way reflects the national average and is typical of the association's amateur and downright capricious methods of generating material for the news media.

That kind of "fact finding" is a disservice to the worthy and hard-working Ethiopian immigrants Rabbi Odenheimer claims to represent. Let's dispense with the mindless rhetoric and roll up our sleeves and get to work on the issues at hand. The association should once and for all refrain from issuing unsubstantiated statements and stop badgering those who strive to improve the lot of Ethiopian Jews.

SHIMON SOLOMON,
Adviser to the Minister of Education, Culture and Sport
Jerusalem

SPIES

Sir, - Everything that Messrs. Uri Dan and Dennis Eisenberg state in their article of September 21, "Their calling - treason" about convicted spies Klingberg and Vannu could also be said about Pollard. Yet Messrs. Dan and Eisenberg and your esteemed paper are fighting to release Pollard.

MARCUS HESCHEL
Ramat Hasharon

HOPE

Sir, - I wish to thank Rabin and Peres for what they have managed to achieve in the last few months, culminating in the Oslo 2 agreement. I believe they have set an example both on the political and personal level. They have managed to achieve an agreement with the Palestinians against tremendous odds and despite great pressure within the country from opposition groups to break off the talks. As they themselves have pointed out, the path ahead will be difficult with no guarantees as to what the future holds for us.

What Rabin and Peres have given us is hope. What better present could anyone ask for at the start of this new year?

STANLEY CANNING
Kfar Hamaccabi

DENMARK'S GNP PER CAPITA

Sir, - In your bottom leading article on September 24, you range Denmark among "some of Europe's poorer countries." It would be far from me to question the editor's right to hold and to print any view he might entertain. When it comes to facts, however, it must be permissible to correct faulty information. During the more than 20 years it has been a member of the European community the European Union Denmark has always been among the three member countries with the highest GNP per capita, and from time to time the No. 1 country in this respect.

FINN ABRAHAMSEN,
Minister Counsellor,
Royal Danish Embassy
Tel Aviv

The Jerusalem Post regrets the inadvertent error. - Ed J.P.

PRINTER'S DEVIL

Sir, - In my letter of September 21, "The Palestinian Housing Council," there was a mistake in the published copy. In the first sentence of the third paragraph, you printed that the Palestinian Housing Council funds are from "legitimate international bodies, mainly the UN and the US government." whereas I clearly mentioned the European Union, not the UN.

MAHER ABUKHATER,
Public Relations Officer,
Palestinian Housing Council,
Jerusalem

Weizman's skillful juggling act

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

It may appear paradoxical, but the role played by President Weizman with regard to the peace process was formulated with remarkable foresight by none other than Prime Minister Rabin the day Weizman was elected.

Congratulating Weizman on his election, Rabin prophesied grave decisions in the near future that would seriously divide public opinion. The function of the presidency, Rabin declared, was to assure public acceptance of these decisions and the preservation of national unity.

It is questionable if either Rabin or Weizman realized at the time how difficult this job would be. Nevertheless, this is the path along which Weizman has moved with remarkable consistency.

If there was ever a time when the necessity for the existence of the presidential office was so clear, it is now. That is precisely because there was never a time when the national cleavage was so extreme. Peace cannot be the product of consensus, as Weizman is well aware. But neither can it be the product of alienation.

The presidential role is twofold: conferring legitimacy on the decision-making process, and countering the danger of alienation. It takes great skill to keep these two objectives from defeating one another. Presidential initiatives that counter alienation can harm the legitimacy of the decision-making process, and of the government itself. Under conditions that stretch the nerves of government to the breaking point, Weizman has achieved the maximum possible.

Take the hard case - the presidential refusal to authorize the release of two women Palestinian prisoners. Attention has been focused on the crisis this has created in the implementation of the Taba agreement.

But there is another side to the

picture: the conferring of legitimacy on the agreement itself for the mass release of Palestinian prisoners. This should not be taken lightly. The very act of refusal of executive clemency in the two exceptions constitutes explicit endorsement of the legitimacy of the mass release itself.

Opponents of the Taba agreement will continue to object to the mass release. However, within the framework of the agreement, they

clear manifestation of alienation. So too, the cries of "Rabin, traitor," or the photomontage of Rabin in a Gestapo uniform. But these remain exceptions.

There is a hard core of opposition with which no dialogue is possible. However, the settler community is hardly monolithic. It is unfortunate that other non-presidential avenues of communication have virtually disappeared.

The late Motta Gur, as deputy

The expanding presidential role has taken on a life of its own

can find a mechanism for at least partial redress. By narrowing the division to the exceptional cases, the agreement itself has been brought within the boundaries of legitimacy, even for its opponents.

THERE IS no reason to believe that Weizman has undergone any fundamental change in his general political orientation. He is the same Ezer whose removal from the national unity government was demanded by Yitzhak Shamir because of Weizman's contacts with PLO leaders at a time when such contacts were illegal. Despite misgivings about the way the dealings with the Palestinians have been handled, Weizman remains deeply committed to the peace process.

Because of the president's critical pronouncements, the settlers in particular know that within the establishment they can be heard. It is in part due to Weizman that opposition has found expression within the political system, not against it.

The refusal to listen to Weizman, as when he went to talk to the crowd in the street after the Jerusalem bomb outrage, was a

defense minister, performed this function faithfully. It is incomprehensible that, in such a critical period, Rabin has not named a successor to Gur.

In voicing his criticism of the government's negotiating tactics, Weizman has expanded the boundaries of presidential involvement.

POSTSCRIPTS

TWO CALIFORNIA farmers paid a record \$108,000 for a pig raised by a 14-year-old girl recovering in hospital from a brain tumor operation.

The Salinas farmers paid nearly \$500 a pound for the 95-kilo hog - about 170 times the normal price - because proceeds from the sale will go toward the medical expenses of Nichole Noroian, who raised the pig.

Lettuce growers Dennis Caprara and Ed Silva bought the pig at a livestock auction, bidding it up after the auctioneer explained the sale was for a good cause.

The two farmers later decided to split the bill, paying \$54,000 each.

ment in controversial political issues. In this, he has gone beyond the ground-breaking expansions of presidential power of his predecessors, Yitzhak Navon and Chaim Herzog.

Presidential powers are outlined in minimal fashion in the Basic Law: The Presidency. It was clear that the founding fathers had in mind a republican version of the British constitutional monarchy. It was assumed that British constitutional customs and conventions would fill in the missing details.

The expanding presidential role, however, has taken on a life of its own.

Presidential powers expand to accomplish presidential policy objectives. Weizman's incumbency coincides with a period of critical decision-making under conditions of extreme national cleavage.

His prime policy objective is that, even in such a fateful period, no one will feel left out. This, he knows, is the best defense of the political system itself.

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

Caprara knows Noroian. "It was a worthy cause. The Noroians are a good family," he said.

Silva did not know the family. "I didn't know a thing about it until I heard the announcement about Nichole and her tumor," he said. "It sort of touched me."

The farmers showed no sentimentality about the pig. They sold it to a meat company.

QUICKIE QUIZ: in what city does Kentucky Fried Chicken ring up the highest daily sales? Answer: Mecca. The reason is, in part, the strict slaughter procedures, which are supervised by Islamic committees.

The gains... staggering

ABBA EBAN

I was the first human being ever to see an international document specifically calling for the establishment of a Jewish state. It was September 1, 1947 in Geneva, when the UN Special Committee on Palestine handed me the report which subsequently secured great power recognition and Israeli implementation.

The report envisaged the need for two nations to share control of the area between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. This idea, sometimes called "territories for peace" and memorably enshrined in UN Resolution 242, has dominated Israeli policy for most of the past 47 years.

The most massive implementation of this central idea came in the accord signed by Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat in the 1979 Camp David Framework Agreement. On that occasion, Begin committed Israel to "the withdrawal of the military and civil administrations" in the West Bank and Gaza, their "replacement" by an elected Palestinian self-governing authority, the constitution of "a strong Palestinian police force" and the resolution of the final status of the West Bank and Gaza (including boundaries) by negotiation with "the elected representatives of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza."

This was the most momentous document ever signed by a Jewish leader concerning the Judea and Samaria regions. Short of personally planting a Palestinian flag in a West Bank town, it is hard to see how Mr. Begin could have done more to bring Palestinian independence within high probability.

The Israeli government and parliament are now returning to the "territories for peace" policy which has dominated Israeli policies for most of the years since 1967.

Contrary to conventional fallacy, the idea of sharing control in Judea and Samaria has been

adopted by both major Israeli parties, with the peculiarity that they adopted it at different times. They would do well to work for consensus rather than for discord.

IN BRINGING Israel home to the pragmatism of its founders, Rabin and Peres, like Begin before them, have responded to three factors.

First was the unacceptable death toll in the days of the Greater Israel map. The salvational military victory of 1967 was followed by four wars between 1967 and 1982: the "war of attrition" between Israel and Egypt until 1970, the Yom Kippur

But opponents of the peace process prefer their clouds without silver linings

war, the Israeli entry into Lebanon up to Beirut and the intifada in which Palestinians engaged the Israeli forces day by day.

Between the cease-fire of 1967 and the intifada, Israeli and Arab casualties were in the thousands, not in the tragic dozens of 1995. Security is the last thing that the opponents of the peace process can convincingly claim for their own status quo prescription.

The second factor underlying the Rabin-Peres approach was the agonizing paradox of an Israeli democracy ruling a foreign population of nearly two million people without being able to offer them either equal citizenship or the chance of separating into their own jurisdiction. The third factor was the erosion of Israel's international standing, which the peace process has brilliantly rehabilitated.

The media are professionally committed to reporting loss and grief. The normal flow of life makes few headlines. This is one of the more innocent reasons for how rarely the list of Israeli benefits from the peace process reaches the printers.

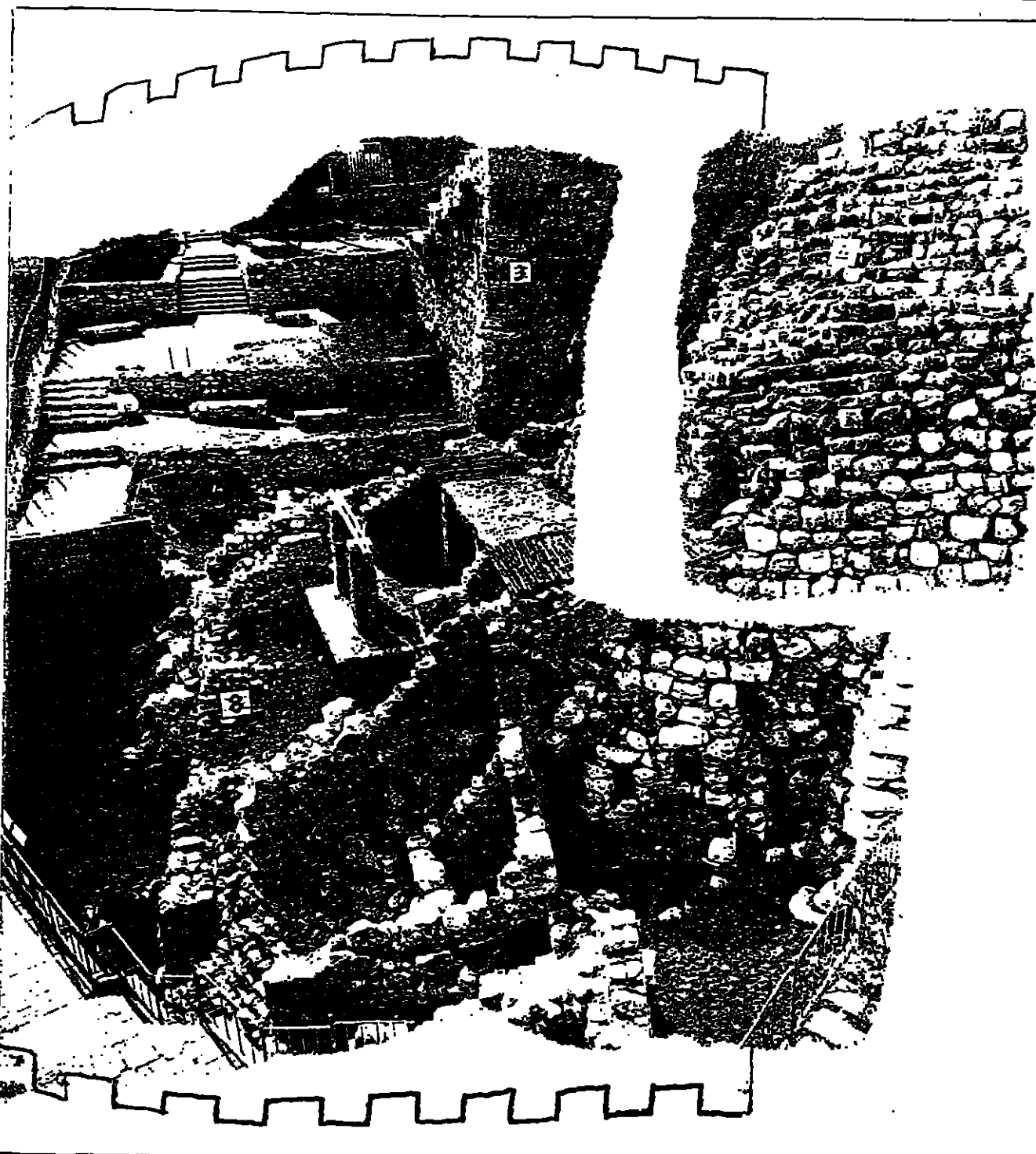
The gains for Israel's interests are staggering. They include increasingly effective anti-terrorist cooperation with the Palestinian Authority; the peace treaty with Jordan; diplomatic relations with Morocco; the multiplication of Israel's contacts with Arab states in North Africa, the Gulf area and the republics of the former Soviet Union; abandonment of the significant aspects of the Arab boycott. There is a friendlier environment in the UN; a historic reconciliation with the Vatican and, above all, a more trustful relationship with the US than anything Israel has known in the past. For the first time, Israel and America are in tenacious pursuit of a common foreign policy goal.

The opponents of the peace process, including some eminent media pundits, tenaciously refuse to praise or even record the widest breach ever made by Israel in the neighboring wall of Arab and Moslem hostility. They prefer their clouds without silver linings. Truth can be violated by calculated silences just as much as by virulent speech.

The spectacle I saw in Washington, of American, Egyptian, Jordanian, Israeli, Moroccan, Russian, Japanese, European and even Saudi leaders, surrounded by a dozen Arab foreign ministers, supporting Israel's quest for peace and security has never been seen before.

Historians should be reminding all of us, Israelis and Diaspora Jews, that it was through the lack of peace accords or cooperation with neighbors that two ancient Jewish kingdoms came to grief.

The writer is a former foreign minister.



History must receive its due

HERSHEL SHANKS

I read with disgust Abraham Rabinovich's article ("Heritage in Stone," *The Jerusalem Post*, September 30) announcing that \$15 million is being made available during the next three years "for planning and initial infrastructure" for the development of an archaeological park in Jerusalem. The park will include the City of David, the excavations south of the Temple Mount, and adjacent areas.

If \$15 million is needed just for planning and initial infrastructure, imagine what the entire project will cost.

This project should be stopped in its tracks by everyone concerned with Jerusalem's history.

Not that the project itself is bad; on the contrary, it is marvelous, provided it is well done. And not even the cost is too high. Doing it well will cost money.

But the sin is that the tourist interests that inevitably — and properly — lie behind this project are not making appropriate provision to support the archaeological enterprise that made the park possible in the first place.

In short, Jerusalem, Israel, and the world owe a tremendous debt to the archaeologists who made the funds that will be featured in this park. Yet the archaeological excavations that made this park possible are suffering acutely from a lack of funds, which in turn threatens the loss of several chapters in Jerusalem's history.

Since Jerusalem was reunited in 1967, Israeli archaeologists have conducted three major excavations there — at the southern wall of the Temple Mount under the direction of Prof. Benjamin Mazar; in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City under the direction of Prof. Nahman Avigad; and in the oldest part of Jerusalem, the City of David, under the direction of Prof. Yigal Shilo.

The writer is a Likud MK.

All three died without publishing the scientific reports of their excavations. It has rightly been said that to dig without publishing a final report is tantamount to looting. If the information from a dig is not published, it is lost forever.

I do not mean to single out these three. The problem is endemic. Kathleen Kenyon, the famous British archaeologist who excavated in the City of David in the 1960s, also died without publishing her final report. To this day, the most important and significant part of her dig remains unpublished, more than 30 years after the pick hit the turf.

Israel has an obligation to see that these excavations are prop-

quate funds are still unavailable for proper scientific publication of the results. Why?

Shilo's dig in the City of King David suffers similarly, although the philanthropic backing of Mendel Kaplan, former head of the Jewish Agency, will insure that something is eventually done. But more than this is needed. The dig ended when Shilo tragically died at 50. Is more work required before this dig is halted?

The City of David contains tombs that may have been the final resting place of David, Solomon, and the early kings of Judah. These tombs were excavated before World War I by a French

wall of the Temple Mount presents other problems. Mazar, who recently died at 89, for all his brilliance, organizing skill, and high scholarship, was not a great field archaeologist. As a result, his greatest triumph — the dig at the southern wall — was also his greatest failure.

As every archaeologist in Israel knows, but talks about only privately, this site was not well dug. Mazar dug too much, too fast, and without adequate records. He also fell out with his field director, Meir Ben-Dov. To make matters worse, some of the excavation records were destroyed in a fire. Most archaeologists say that, based on what has survived, this dig simply cannot be published; the materials are not there.

This is partly true, but only partly. It may be impossible to publish a first-rate scientific report, but whatever is available, whatever can be salvaged, must be published. The distinguished Dutch architect/archaeologist Leen Ritmeyer, who served as the excavation architect for many years, is thoroughly familiar with the records that have survived. He also has the invaluable knowledge that comes from being there when the excavation was taking place. He must be enlisted to work on the publication of this dig. There is no other comparable alternative.

If there is money to make an archaeological park in Jerusalem, money must first be provided to complete the archaeological projects that enabled the park to be conceived.

The writer is the editor of *Biblical Archaeology Review* and author of *Jerusalem: An Archaeological Biography, and of The City of David: A Guide to Biblical Jerusalem*.

Ballot boxes and bald deceit

ZEEV B. BEGIN

AMAZINGLY, Yitzhak Rabin continues to implement his policy through deceit.

The government promised Yasser Arafat that Jerusalem's Arab inhabitants would be able to vote in elections to the 82-member PLO parliament. Simultaneously, it assured Israelis that the elections wouldn't impinge upon Israel's sovereign status "in our eternal united city," etc. The emplacement of ballots in the city, it was explained, would be prevented. Instead, stamped envelopes would be sent out of the capital.

But then it turns out that Oslo 2 agreement has a hidden paragraph which lays down that the capital's Arab inhabitants shall vote at five post offices in the city. In full accordance with the government's commitment to the public (and to maintain our sovereign status in our capital etc.), no balloting committees will sit in the post offices. Instead, "upon arrival... voters will identify themselves before the relevant postal personnel..." which of course is not a ballot committee. [They] will hand the voters ballot-papers and envelopes. However, in conformity with the government's promise to refrain from damaging our posture in our capital, these will not be placed in ballot boxes.

Well, so what will happen to them? The agreement says that the envelopes with the ballot-papers will "be inserted in receptacles, the size and shape of which shall be agreed between the two sides... the receptacles shall be promptly delivered to the office

of the central elections authority... [they] shall be sealed prior to delivery..."

First, Mr. Rabin ("I was born in Jerusalem") insisted that no way would PLO ballot boxes be emplaced in Jerusalem. Arafat won (again), and now the premier will valiantly haggle over the size and shape of the "receptacles."

This amazing concession indicates that Mr. Rabin sees a contradiction between the real estate he has lately referred to as "Jerusalem plus," and the "Jewish values" he mentioned in the US.

Not even this government has attempted such a shameful deceit. Does the premier really believe Israelis can be hoodwinked in this way?

TWO YEARS after the premier signed Oslo 1, about half the electorate has rejected the wonders of his policy. It is tempting to be carried along by slogans of tranquility and prosperity, more difficult to be castigated as victims of incitement, enemies of peace, and partners of Hamas. And yet, half the public is ready to carry these derogatory tags, and to rely on its deep anchors in the real-estate regions of our homeland.

The hidden paragraph in Oslo 2

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Simpson: I was wrong to 'get physical' with Nicole

NEW YORK (AP) — Shunning a live TV interview for a telephone call on his own terms, O.J. Simpson told *The New York Times* he was wrong to "get physical" with Nicole Brown Simpson and that he's willing to meet with battered women to talk about the relationship.

In a 45-minute discussion with the *Times* — his first extensive press interview since his arrest last year — Simpson proclaimed his innocence but did not address unanswered questions about the killings of Ms. Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman.

Simpson pulled out of the live, no-holds-barred interview on "Dateline NBC" hours before it was to air Wednesday night, saying he didn't want the network to "retry me" and that the interview could have damaged his chances in wrongful-death lawsuits filed by the victims' families.

The former football star was acquitted last week on charges of murdering Ms. Simpson and Brown. The televised trial transfixed America for a year, raising issues of race, spouse abuse and police misconduct.

Simpson hinted he would like to pursue a pay television discussion with prosecutor Marcia Clark, the *Times* said. "Let's get in a room and debate," Simpson said. Referring to the witness stand, he said: "I'll get in that blue chair. I'd like to be able to knock that chip off Marcia's shoulder."

Simpson discussed with the newspaper a wide range of issues from his finances to girlfriend Paula Barbieri, and said he was "on the same page" with Ms. Simpson's family about current arrangements for custody of his two children by his ex-wife.

"We've agreed on professional help for the kids. There is no conflict going on with the Browns over the kids," he told the *Times*. Ms. Simpson's parents, Juditha and

Lou Brown, have temporary custody of Sydney, 9, and Justin, 7. Simpson laughed about reports that his legal bills had left him broke.

"Not yet they haven't," he said. "I still have my Ferrari. I still have my Bentley. I still have my home in Brentwood and my apartment in New York."

He said he was confident he would find a good job.

"I've always found a way," he said. "I'm an American. I should have a right to find a job and support my family."

He also denied rumors that he was about to marry Barbieri, a model, in the Dominican Republic.

"I've spoken to Paula but she has not been to my house. I have not seen her."

Discussing a 1989 attack on Ms. Simpson, he said he had been wrong to "get physical" and that he's willing to meet with battered women to talk about the relationship.

Simpson pleaded no-contest to wife beating after the New Year's Day assault and was allowed to receive counseling by telephone.

On public opinion, Simpson said he questions polls showing most Americans believe he is guilty.

"I don't think most of America believes I did it," Simpson told the *Times*. "I've gotten thousands of letters and telegrams from people supporting me."

He said many of those people are white.

"That's one of the things this case did: make people have to identify what race they are when they say they're supporting you."

The *Times* said Simpson telephoned the newspaper without notice early Wednesday afternoon, saying he wanted to explain his decision to back out of the NBC interview.



Sarajevans pass by the eternal flame and a working traffic light in the center of the city yesterday after a countrywide cease-fire took effect the previous midnight. (Reuters)

Bosnian cease-fire holds on most fronts

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Bosnia's most hopeful cease-fire to date quieted almost all battlefields yesterday, but government leaders said Serbs must do more to lift Sarajevo's siege before peace talks can start.

The government and rebel Serbs accused each other of new attacks in the bitterly contested northwest.

Yet the warring parties sat down under UN auspices to discuss how to firm up the truce, scheduled to last two months. US

negotiators hope to use the time for talks leading to an international peace conference in Paris.

"All the parties cooperated well," said UN spokesman Jim Landale of yesterday's UN-mediated talks. He gave no details.

With Washington leading the peace drive, this cease-fire is given more chances than many previous truces in the 3½-year war.

"There are good reasons to believe that we are approaching peace in Bosnia," so long as the world remains firm with the Serbs, said Bosnia Prime Minister

Haris Silajdzic in Brussels.

"The cease-fire has more chance than previous ones, because the readiness [for it] is greater than before," said Momcilo Krajisnik, a Serb leader.

But the Bosnian government warned it would boycott peace talks, due October 31 in the United States, unless further conditions are met.

Foreign Minister Mohammed Sacirbey said a road to the eastern enclave of Gorazde must be opened, and a road out of besieged Sarajevo.

A UN aid convoy tried to reach Gorazde from Sarajevo yesterday on the main road through Serb-held territory. The convoy soon had to turn back because of mines, which UN engineers must clear "centimeter by centimeter," said French Lt. Col. Patrick Mace.

Serb soldiers at a checkpoint on the road indicated they would not clear it — a condition of the cease-fire agreement.

Serb soldier Miroslav Cvoko said Serbs would inspect any UN convoys because, he claimed, the government might use them to smuggle weapons to Gorazde.

Restoration of gas and electricity to Sarajevo was vital for the truce, which took effect just after midnight. While access to Gorazde was part of the US-brokered cease-fire agreement, an open road out of Sarajevo west to Kiseljak was not. The UN can use that road, but Sarajevans cannot. (AP)

Iraq: UN weapons inspector is a liar

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's vice president said yesterday the chief UN weapons inspector lied when he said Iraq had misled the world about the wide scope of its weapons programs.

In another development, Iraq condemned the United States for saying the referendum that Iraq will hold Sunday is a sham because President Saddam Hussein is the only candidate on the ballot.

Posters and pictures of Saddam have been put up on buildings across central Baghdad encouraging Iraqis to vote "yes" for the

58-year-old leader and give him seven more years in power. One poster says, "Life is meaningless without the leader."

At the United Nations on Wednesday, Rolf Ekeus, the chief UN weapons inspector, said that Iraq tested toxins on animals and misled UN monitors about the size of its weapons programs.

Asked about Ekeus' report, Vice President Taha Muhiiddine Maarouf said in an interview: "He's lying, you see, about this." He said Iraq has fully cooperated with UN inspectors since it lost the Gulf War in 1991.

Following the ceremony, the Ministry of Information condemned a US comment about Iraq's referendum.

In Washington, Nicolas Burns, a State Department spokesman, said Wednesday that Iraq has had no democracy since Saddam took power in 1979.

"The idea of an election in which you get to vote for one person and no one else is really a mockery of democratic principles," said Burns.

In a statement, the Information Ministry said: "The comment ... shows the level of nervousness and the state of fiasco that the American administration has reached in dealing with Iraq."

Austrian coalition dies in infancy, heralding new era

AUSTRIA'S coalition government was about to collapse yesterday, propelling the country to a snap election which could end 50 years of two-party rule and bring the far right into government.

Opinion polls say Joerg Haider, leader of the far-right Freedom party, once ostracized as a crypto-Nazi, could capture one vote in four if an election were held now, making his anti-immigration party a tempting new partner for the conservatives, who have 29 percent support.

Nine months after limping back into office with their worst election showing since 1945, the dominant Social Democrats and their conservative Peoples Party allies admit they can no longer agree on where to lead the country.

The coalition, Austria's 20th government since the end of World War Two, has been the shortest-lived administration of the Second Republic.

Formally, the two parties fell out over higher taxes versus lower spending in the 1996 budget.

"A partnership that cannot agree on a budget is not a partnership," said conservative leader Wolfgang Schuessel.

"The only possible outcome... is a new election," he said, urging the Social Democrats to quit trying to cling to office.

Social Democrat Chancellor Franz Vranitzky said he was against a fresh poll but would not oppose such a motion in parliament and spoke of December 17 as the likeliest date.

The Social Democrats, with 32 percent, are still the biggest party but no longer by the comfortable margin they long were used to. They would need both Greens and Liberal backing to form a majority government, should the breach with the conservatives prove final. (Reuters)

Mandela: Unity gov't will last full term

TOM COHEN
JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH African President Nelson Mandela yesterday played down clashes with his governing partners and said he expected his administration to last its full five-year term.

Rumors earlier yesterday that Deputy President F.W. de Klerk of the white-led National Party would resign from the government affected South Africa's bond markets and currency. De Klerk's spokesman called the rumors untrue and ridiculous.

Recent verbal clashes between Mandela and de Klerk, the former president succeeded by Mandela after South Africa's first all-race election last year, fueled speculation that de Klerk and his National Party would pull out of the unity government that also includes the Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party.

Mandela insisted no such split was imminent.

"Mr. de Klerk and I understand that we need each other," he said in an interview with the Associated Press. "It's not a question of personal likes. It's of an absolute necessity that we be together."

Mandela said he "had no doubt that it (the unity government) will last for the full five-year term."

Dressed in a casual light blue outfit, Mandela gestured with his right hand while detailing what he called the progress made since his African National Congress won the 1994 election.

He cited new economic figures that showed inflation rising at 7.5 percent in the 12 months to August, well below the double digits of earlier this year and less than expected.

"The most significant basis for this economic upturn is the phenomenal growth in fixed investments, a reflection of the profound confidence that entrepreneurs have in the country's long-term prospects," Mandela said.

Such growth was needed to pay for the widespread development programs the ANC-led government has promised to millions of impoverished blacks, he said. (AP)

Cosmonauts face delay in space

MOSCOW (AP) — Two Russians and a German astronaut aboard the Mir space station will likely have their 19-week mission extended by 39 days, officials said yesterday.

The Interfax news agency reported that the reason for the delay is funding problems that will prevent the booster rocket for the present crew's replacement from being ready on time.

The Mir crew is not aware about the plans to postpone their return from January 13 to February 21, said Yuri Teplakov, a Russian mission control spokesman.

"We are going to tell them quite soon, and I am sure they will be pleased about it — all cosmonauts, like pilots, like to fly," he said.

The mission, part of the international effort Europeace '95, consists of biological, geophysical and technological experiments.

With deep sorrow, we mourn the passing of our beloved daughter and sister

DANIELLA (PAZ) YA'ARI

The Family

Shiva will take place at 14 Harishonim, Ramat Hasharon, October 17-23.

The unveiling of the tombstone in memory of our beloved mother

RAE FINE

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mourn with respect and sadness the passing of

NISSIE SHAPIRO

and offer deepest condolences and sympathy to the family

The unveiling for

Dr. LEONARD SACHAROW

will take place on October 18 at 3 p.m.
at Eretz Hahayim Cemetery, Beit Shemesh.

The Family

On the twenty-second anniversary of the Yom Kippur War, a memorial service for
DUDI (David) SILBOWITZ ז"ל

and
NEIL FREED ז"ל

will be held at Kibbutz Yizra'el cemetery on Friday, October 20, 1995 at 11:30 a.m.

The Families
Kibbutz Yizra'el

The unveiling of the tombstone of

**ISRAEL
KOSCHITZKY ז"ל**

will be held on Wednesday, October 18
(24 Tishrei 5756), at 10:00 a.m. at the
Eretz Hachaim Cemetery, Beit Shemesh

Transportation will be provided from the Laromme
Hotel, Jerusalem at 9:15 a.m.

The Koschitzky Family



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The real test of redeployment is security

High-tech weapons won't help Israel overcome the security problems created by Oslo 2, Alon Pinkas writes

TWO teenage boys were standing in Kikar Maichei Israel in Tel Aviv holding a banner proclaiming that "Yesha is here." Yesha being the Hebrew acronym for Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

A young girl stood nearby and enthusiastically waved a sign proclaiming that "Our security is being neglected."

The small demonstration on Wednesday evening would not have been an extraordinary or conspicuous political occurrence had it not been for the background. Just behind the demonstrators was a colorful line of balloons vendors. Behind the vendors, in the brightly illuminated and bustling square, stood a Merkava-3 tank, the experts' choice as the best and most advanced tank in the world.

Tanks and an assortment of armored vehicles are an annual feature in the square. Every Succot, Tel Aviv hosts the Armored Corps, and large crowds come to closely admire and touch military might.

The four demonstrators standing in the background of the Merkava-3 and the M-60-A2 somewhat illustrated the public's notions and gut fears regarding the Oslo 2 agreement and the redeployment of the IDF in the West Bank.

The country may have the most sophisticated military equipment available, yet redeploying outside Jenin is still perceived—even by supporters of the peace process—as a danger.

Moving out of Nablus is also perceived with apprehension, even by those who generally sigh with relief over the idea itself.

The acid test of the Oslo process is personal security. Prime Minister Rabin said it, Chief of

General Staff Shahak reiterated it, and every Israeli intuitively knows it, without delving into the nitty-gritty of the agreement.

A Merkava-3 is useless against Hamas, and there is only so much an F-151 can do against a suicide bomber.

It is not an existential threat which determines people's perceptions of and attitudes to Oslo 2 and redeployment, but an insistence on the basic right to live in relative security and to finally normalize daily life.

The terms of reference are not "national security" but "personal security."

That, Rabin knows, will have to be put to a demanding test of time and durability. It is by no means guaranteed by 400 pages of legal, political and geographical acrobatics bound together and labeled Oslo 2.

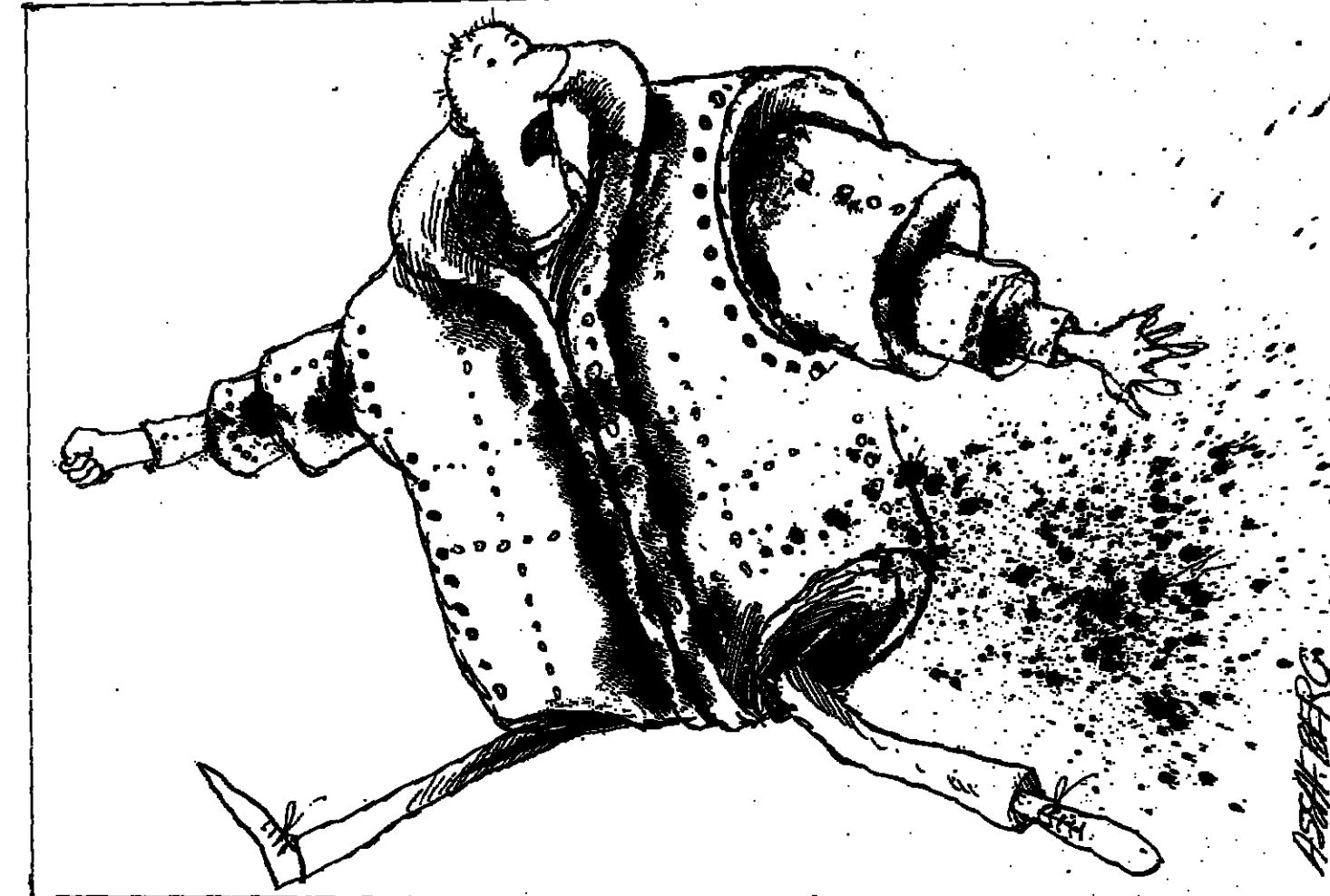
In highlighting security issues and aspects, Rabin and Shahak were not merely responding to popular concerns and alleviating public anxiety.

To a large extent, Israelis and Palestinians negotiated a deal which, good or bad, confronted their most basic historical aspirations and interests.

For the Palestinians, their part of the compromise is the effective relinquishing of the dream to exclusively own Palestine. For Israel, the question arising from the compromise is what its security cost will be.

The Oslo 2 agreement puts an added emphasis on security and includes specific measures to be used against terrorism, says Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan, the Head of the IDF Planning Branch and chief military negotiator in the talks.

In a recent meeting with military reporters, Dayan elaborated



on the security aspects of the agreement, listed in 14 clauses in Annex 2 to the general agreement.

"As far as we were concerned, the premise of the negotiations was a definition of Israel's security interests in the territories. We identified and defined three prime interests: the place of the West Bank and the Jordan Valley area in Israel's national security concept; protection of Israelis living in those areas; and terror prevention."

"This triangular interest was predicated on our commitment to the Oslo Declaration of Principles and our experience of implementation of the Gaza Strip and Jericho agreement," said Dayan, who recently left his position in

the negotiating team for personal reasons.

Among the prime security issues are: Palestinian Authority elections; redeployment; division of responsibility over security; the Palestinian police; and prevention of terror.

But Dayan and OC Central Command, Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran, as well as Shahak, are quick to stress that clauses, articles, and paragraphs are merely components of a document.

The real test, they all emphasize, is the cooperation between Israel and the Palestinian security forces and the latter's determination to prevent terrorism. Redevelopment, they say, is dependent on that cooperation.

Redevelopment, or in IDF plan-

ning "Rainbow-2" (Kashet Tzvi im-B), is first and foremost a profound change in the status quo of the territories, basically intact since 1967, in that it decreases friction between the army and the Palestinian population.

But at the same time it creates a seemingly intractable geographic division of powers.

The West Bank has been divided into three geopolitical categories.

Area "A" comprises the six major cities (Kalkiya, Tulkarm, Bethlehem, Nablus, Ramallah, Jenin) and Hebron, or 3% of the total area.

Area "B" includes the 460 Palestinian towns, villages and hamlets, comprising 31% of the total area.

Area "C," in which Israeli settlements are scattered, comprises 66% of the area.

Israel will have "overall" control of security in the entire area, but Palestinian police will control the cities in area "A" and set up 25 police stations in area "B." That division of responsibility underlines some of the security problems inherent in the agreement.

The first problem posed by redeployment will be the inevitable diminishing of intelligence-gathering capabilities. More than the IDF, the General Security Service will be dependent on the good will of the Palestinians for intelligence information. Access to villages and cities will be effectively limited and collaborators

will be increasingly hard to recruit.

"The overriding responsibility clause will be applied whenever Israel will be convinced that the Palestinian police are not doing enough," Dayan said.

But in a holiday interview, Shahak conceded that "based on the Jericho model, it is clear that it will not be easy to enter cities at will."

A senior GSS official agrees, but stresses that "the Palestinians will have a lot to lose if they allow terrorists to operate freely. In some respects, we will not be required to do the dirty work any more. The question is, will they do it successfully?"

This, according to Dayan, is why "we established a new mechanism — the Regional Security Committee — RSC — to enhance and improve cooperation and coordination, as well as joint patrols in area 'A'."

These mechanisms are to prevent any hostilities from "seamline" cities — Kalkiya or Tulkarm — which are only a few kilometers from towns such as Kfar Sava and Netanya.

If redeployment proves successful, Israel and the Palestinians will begin planning the next phase, "further redeployment," in three six-month stages scheduled to commence only after the Palestinian Council has been established — meaning after elections, which are to take place 22 days after the completion of the present redeployment.

The exact nature of "further redeployment" has not been discussed yet, but essentially it will allow the sides to introduce changes in the maps of the West Bank. For example, a village currently planned to be in area "B" may be moved to area "A."

"This is an agreement we can live with," said Shahak a few days ago.

Theoretically, he is right. Militarily, he is probably right. Terrorism existed when Israel controlled the territories, and will not be obliterated in one day. But the question is whether the problems of redeployment prove to be politically tolerable.

Iraqi defector strengthened Clinton's hand, but not his own

THE defection to Jordan of Hussein Kamel, Saddam Hussein's son-in-law, continues to create ripples throughout the Arab world, exciting media speculation about the Iraqi leader's fate, Russia's attitude, America's intentions and Israel's approach.

According to Kamran Karadaghi, a senior columnist on the Saudi-owned, London-based daily *al-Hayat*, Washington has informed Israel that it no longer regards Kamel, who defected on August 8, as a potential instrument for political change in Iraq.

However, writes the Iraqi-born columnist, the US is now deter-

mined to remove Saddam before the US presidential elections next year by tightening the economic screws still further through UN economic sanctions.

This has been made possible, he notes, by the fact that Kamel's "horrible" revelations about Iraq's biological weapons program will almost certainly silence future Russian calls to relax economic sanctions. Despite the powerful military-industrial lobby in Moscow, any future calls to relax sanctions are expected to be heavily muted.

These factors, writes Karadaghi, are likely to have dominated talks between visiting Russian

Hussein Kamel's star faded quickly after his revelations about Saddam's war machine rocked the world, Douglas Davis reports from London

Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Postavayuk and Kuwaiti officials two weeks ago.

Kremlin strategists are now considering two new factors: the serious possibility of Saddam's downfall and the "Israeli-Jordanian dimension" to the struggle over Iraq, a dimension which occurred to the Russians, according

to Karadaghi, only after talks with Prime Minister Rabin in Moscow.

It was during the course of their discussions with the Israelis, he writes, that the Russians appreciated the seriousness of the joint "Israeli-Jordanian approach towards Iraq" and paid "close attention" to Israel's prognosis, particularly their views on the events that are likely to occur before the 1996 US presidential elections.

"The Russians have heard from the Israelis that Hussein Kamel has virtually outlived his usefulness," Karadaghi writes.

"The Americans do not rely on him to effect any change in Iraq, although his 'services' were put to good use — and might be put to good use again — to bolster the US policy of retaining sanctions

against Iraq and tightening the noose around Saddam Hussein's regime."

It is, moreover, a policy that Washington can pursue with renewed confidence now that China and France have stopped agitating for a relaxation of sanctions.

"The noose will be tightened incrementally as the US elections approach," he adds, "and one can assume that a decisive development will occur in Baghdad shortly before the elections to remind US voters that credit for bringing about the change should go to the administration of President Bill Clinton."

Karadaghi's assertion that Kamel's influence is waning has been confirmed by Western diplomatic sources and by messages emanating from Jordan, where

the Iraqi defector had been hailed by King Hussein as a "patriot" shortly after his highly publicized arrival in Amman and is now regarded as an awkward embarrassment.

According to sources in London, where the opposition Iraqi National Council is based, there was never any possibility that Kamel, so long and so closely associated with the ruling echelon's worst atrocities against Kurds and Shi'ites, would become the focal point of a move to topple Saddam.

One source noted that Jordan had in fact acted swiftly to resume "business as usual" with Baghdad, pointing to a recent visit to Iraq by Jordanian Energy Minister Samih Darwazah, who discussed Iraqi oil supplies to Jordan "and other cooperative ventures."

This message was underscored by the reported signing of two Iraqi-Jordanian deals during Darwazah's visit — one to build an oil pipeline linking the two countries and another providing for the construction of a joint oil refinery.

Darwazah's characterization of bilateral tensions caused by the defections as "a passing cloud," coupled with assurances that Jordan was not supporting efforts to topple Saddam, reportedly raised eyebrows not only in Washington and other Western capitals but also in parts of the Arab world.

Jordan's discomfort over the defection prompted an outburst of barely disguised contempt in the PLO-sponsored daily *al-Quds al-Arabi*, which has offered con-

sistent sympathy and support to the Saddam regime.

"The defection, ghosts the London-based paper in a recent editorial, was nothing more than a 'media bubble' that has quickly burst."

"Kamel has become virtually a prisoner in the lavish palace which King Hussein has placed at his disposal," with nothing to do but walk around the gardens.

According to the editorial, Kamel's defection had actually strengthened Saddam by causing what the paper perceives as dissension among opposition groups abroad.

"In short," it adds, "the defection of Hussein Kamel has benefited Iraq and the Iraqis."

"His media and political life may have come to quick end, but he has managed to inflict grave damage on all those who supported him as the horse of change, particularly in Jordan."

The defection of Hussein Kamel has highlighted persistent intra-Arab fissures, which appear likely to remain deep as long as Saddam remains in power.

And while the event will not inspire an uprising among the Iraqi opposition groups, it is equally unlikely to prove to be the unalloyed victory for Saddam that his sympathizers suggest.

Kamel's revelations will echo through the UN Security Council chamber in New York, draining the will of those who seek a relaxation of sanctions and strengthening the hand of the Clinton administration, which remains determined to purge the Gulf of this looming threat.

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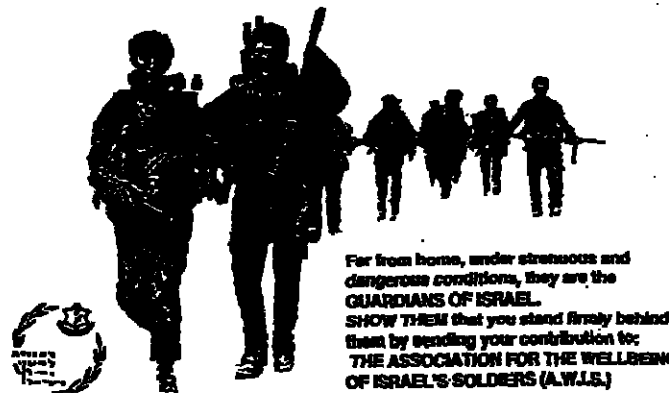
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هكذا من الاصل

هكذا أمونا الأصل

Netanyahu has never called Rabin a traitor. On the contrary,

The lie this time is in the words "there are numerous references to him doing so in press reports etc." It is the kind of statement which Jennings could have safely made only a few years ago, sim-

Perhaps the most dismaying part of the story is that the aggrieved party has little recourse. American libel laws make it almost impossible to win a suit against the news media. Astronomic expenditures are the first deterrent: few can afford the fortune such trials cost. But the virtually insurmountable problem is that even when the lie and the damage it has caused are proved, the plaintiff must also convince the court that the news purveyor acted with malice — a

nearly impossible task.

The appearance of such blunt lying on ABC-TV is hardly surprising. In a field crowded with agenda-driven correspondents looking for opportunities to bash Israel, Jennings's program on ABC is still the American anti-Israel leader.

The October 2 program, even without the Netanyahu refer-

The choice of Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, a former chairman of the Presidents Conference of American Jewish Organizations, to represent "good Jews," those who oppose lobbying against funding the PLO, was nothing if not ironic. Throughout the years of Likud rule Hertzberg appeared on television talk shows with remarkable assiduity to badmouth the government. In March 1988 he made a special effort to lobby Congressmen to oppose Israel's soldiers.

And to make his appearance seem even more ironic Hertz-

The Likud, according to ABC, supports these "treasonous" lobbyists because "Netanyahu does not have the votes at home to block the Israeli government's peace deals with its neighbors." To make such lobbying seem particularly outrageous, Enser por-

By using the statistics of support for "peace deals" in general - a motherhood issue if there ever was one - instead of the poll results which apply to the subject of the program - lobbying against unrestricted aid to the PLO - *World News Tonight* was pulling one of its standard bits of pro-PLO chicanery. It was business as usual at ABC.

SRULIK

We do not merely rest on Shabbat; we commune with the Creator and Liberator, with the universe and the idea of liberty

We seek spirituality by practicing the Divine qualities of *hesed* (lovingkindness) and *rahamim* (mercy) on our fellows, Jews and non-Jews alike, whether as a *mitzva* or on the talmudic principle of *Mipnei darchei shalom*, fostering an orderly and peaceful civic life. As Hillel the Elder said to the heathen who asked him to teach him the Torah in one succinct principle:

"Don't do to your fellow what

Prophet Isaiah said to the rootless "spirituals" and perfect-justice seekers of his day (51:1): "Listen to me, you pursuers of injustice, you God seekers: Look to the rock from which you were hewn, to the hole of the pit out of which you were dug. Look to your father Abraham, and to Sarah who bore you..."



SHABBAT SHALOM
SHLOMO BISKIN

During the first six days of Succot, and immediately after Hallel, the cantor chants an additional selection of Psalms while circling the *bima*, followed by the congregants holding aloft their

Succot begins the winter season, and in Israel, winter means rain. As a matter of fact, our prayer for rain, which we first invoke on Shmini Atzeret, actually should have been invoked on the first day of the festival, but since it would be self-defeating to appeal for rain just as we're about to move into our succot, the plea is put off until the festival is over.

THE THEME of vegetation and water is also central to the Book of Jonah read on Yom Kippur. The beginning of the story is familiar: Jonah is sent by God to bring a message of repentance to the city of Nineveh, archenemy of the Israelites. Instead he flees on a ship headed to Tarshish and hides below deck. Thrown overboard during a storm, he's swal-

The willow becomes our representative.
Shabbat Shalom and Hag Sameah

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The scroll can be signed at nine locations around the city, including the International Convention Center, City Hall, the Holy Land Second Temple Model, the Bible Lands Museum and several hotels. Each signer will be given a handsome certificate attesting to the event. When the Jerusalem 3000 festivities conclude in 15 months, the various sections of the scroll will be joined to-

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Misapplications need not apply

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

A Deal in the Succa
East dealer
Both sides vulnerable

| | | | |
|----------|--|------------|--|
| North | | East | |
| ♠ QJ7 | | ♠ 1096543 | |
| ♥ 9863 | | ♥ 7 | |
| ♦ A10932 | | ♦ Q | |
| ♣ Q | | ♣ 76543 | |
| West | | South | |
| (Rubin) | | ♠ 2 | |
| ♠ AK8 | | ♥ AKQ10542 | |
| ♥ J | | ♦ J76 | |
| ♦ K854 | | ♣ 92 | |
| ♣ AKJ108 | | | |

After South opened four-hearts, Ira Rubin, sitting West for the US, doubled and Paul Soloway (East) bid four spades. This went around to North, who bid five diamonds, a lead-directing call, in case East-West continued to five spades. South corrected to five hearts and West's double ended the auction.

Rubin led the king of clubs and Soloway played the three. Rubin switched to the king of spades and Soloway played the three of that suit as well. Rubin, a methodical player who studies the game with the scrutiny of a scientist in a laboratory, was under the impression that his partner's three of spades meant two things: he was discouraging a continuation, because it was a low card, and he had an odd number of the suit, because it was an odd number. (There are also four common types of signals at trick one: attitude, count, suit-preference and some combination of these.)

Rubin decided to take no chances and cashed the ace of spades. This was ruffed by South, but Rubin survived, because the spade discard that he set up was good for only one diamond discard from the South hand, and the defense scored a diamond trick for down one.

Soloway, who is playing this week in Beijing and loves to play the game more than talk about it, claimed afterwards that his four-spade bid could have been a four-card suit, and so the two-way signal did not apply here. He was simply trying to discourage and get Rubin to shift to diamonds.

Bridge players tend to group

their fellows in four ways: those who play a strong game of bridge and study the game; those who study it but can't reach a high level; those who play a strong game but hate to read bridge strategy; and those who don't study it and play a poor game. The best are the first. They not only get the best results from taking their tricks, but are able to rehash the deal for hours afterwards at a high level.

The one drawback of being a bridge student and a strong player is the misapplication of theoretical material. This week's deal is such a case. It comes from the final match of the 1980 world championship between the US and France.

After South opened four-hearts, Ira Rubin, sitting West for the US, doubled and Paul Soloway (East) bid four spades. This went around to North, who bid five diamonds, a lead-directing call, in case East-West continued to five spades. South corrected to five hearts and West's double ended the auction.

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Pelicans are one of the migrants that come to rest and nest in the Hula Valley. (Teddy Kander)

Eilat can be for the birds

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

If we had no other indication that autumn is here, there would still be the great annual migration of birds, which is under way.

Because of its location at the junction of three continents, Israel is one of the most important of the migration routes for birds heading south to escape the rigors of the European winter and, when spring comes, for their return to their traditional nesting grounds.

There are several migratory patterns and more than one type of migrant: the passage migrants, which only overfly our land; migrants that settle for a short time; and those that winter here.

Regardless of whether they just pass through or stop off, the migrants so outnumber the residents that they are hard to miss.

Some places are better than others for viewing the annual spectacle, and there is no place that can compare with Eilat. Here is where the great flights of

the African-Palestine species pass. In 1985, for instance, 1.1 million birds of passage were counted here. In addition, many migrants from October to January stop over for a rest on the beaches and farms.

For the bird enthusiast, Eilat is a must, but remember that the migration coincides with the beginning of the winter tourist season and the price for accommodations goes up. Choose a hostel or other cheaper accommodation.

THERE ARE other places to find birds, including wintering migrants which congregate in specific places. One such spot is Upper Galilee's Hula Nature Reserve, where you may find hundreds or, sometimes, thousands of migratory waterfowl and other

birds: white pelicans, merlins, teals, harriers, reed warblers, herons, egrets and spotted eagles.

Around the fish ponds of Upper Galilee is the greatest congregation of pelicans and cormorants, while fish ponds in the Beit She'an area attract large numbers of white storks and ospreys. Many waders also come here.

At Ma'agan Michael, north of Netanya, you can see black-headed gulls, Temmink's stints and all three varieties of kingfishers. If you're lucky, you may encounter the rarer citrine wagtail.

On Mount Hermon, you can observe several species that simply do not appear elsewhere in Israel: woodlarks, white-throated robins, black redstarts, blue rock thrush, somber tits, rock nut-hatches, pale rock sparrows, Tristram's serin, crimson-winged finches and rock buntings.

Because of military activity in the area, many fields are off limits, but most species can be observed from the road.

We must not forget the Kinneret shore, the Golan Heights and the Jerusalem area, all of which yield bounties in views of migrating species.

But there's also a wealth of bird life to observe right in your own backyard. Robins and wagtails fill the gardens, birds of prey and flights of storks pass overhead. There is no place in Israel where you cannot find avian winter guests, making this a paradise for bird-watchers.

The Beersheba Syndrome

CHESS

NICK KOPALOFF

AFTER eight successive draws, Vishy Anand's win in the ninth game of his PCA World Championship 20 game series against Garry Kasparov sparked Mr. Hyde rumblings in the infuriated defending Champion. Up to that point experts were perplexed at the level of respect Kasparov was giving to the Indian challenger.

The true Kasparov genius has been best demonstrated when he exhibits total disdain for or indifference to his opponent, as he showed in his previous title defenses against Karpov and Short.

"Kasparov's main problem," said one analyst "is that he almost likes Anand." Kasparov has always been short of praise for his rivals but he admits that the gifted Anand can calculate variations faster than he can.

A very different Kasparov was seen entering the sound-proof glass booth at New York's World Trade Center for the 10th and 11th games. There was no more Mister Nice Guy as the champion picked up the pace and comprehensively defeated Anand in both encounters.

Kasparov's mood swings reminded me of Hapoel Beersheba's humiliating display against Barcelona in soccer's UEFA cup last month.

The Israeli team were in total awe of the Basque club and seemed to find being drawn against the Spanish giants a victory in itself.

Beersheba's laurels of that victory are their prized pre-match photographs alongside the famed Spanish players.

It is quite common in chess that when an inferior achieves an advantageous position against a superior opponent, he tends to squander his chances for victory.

He often feels that his opponent probably has a deeper understanding of the position. So the would-be plays tentatively and hesitantly and goes on to lose.

Former world champion Bobby Fischer never appeared to be in awe of any adversary over the chessboard. He did allegedly however have great respect for Saddam Hussein. According to a recent biography of the temperamental chess genius, Fischer sent a telegram to the Iraqi leader during the Gulf War congratulating him on his invasion of Kuwait.

Spassky, Boris - Fischer, Robert
Reykjavik 1972
Benoni

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Nd2 Nbd7 8.e4 Bg7 9.Bc2; 9.Nb4 Nb6 Nc3 is an interesting alternative for White 9...0-0 10.0-0 Re8 11.Qc2; sounder would have been 11.Ra4

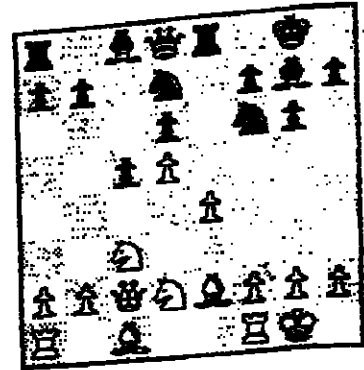


DIAGRAM 1 after White's 11th move

11...Nh5! This move of Fischer is particularly ugly and would automatically be rejected by most self-respecting players. However, it happens to be a brilliant move.

12.Bxh5 gxh5 13.Nc4 Ne5 14.Ne5 Qb4 15.Bd2 Ng4 16.Nxg4 Nxg4 17.Bxg4 Qxg4 18.g3 Bg7 19.a4 b6 20.Rf1 a5 21.Re2 b5 22.Ra1 Qg6 23.b3 Re7 24.Qd3 Rb8 25.a5x5 a5x5 26.b4 c4 27.Qd3 Rb8 28.Rc3 h5 29.R3c2 Kh7 30.Rc3 Kg8 31.R3c2 Bxc3 32.Qxc3 Rxc4 33.Rxc4 Rxc4 34.Rxc4 Qc5 35.Qb6 Qc6 36.Bc1 Qb1 37.Kf1 Bf5 38.Kc2 Qc4+ 39.Qc3 Qc2+ 40.Qc2+ 40...Kc2 would have still left White obviously worse off but would have offered tougher resistance.

40...Qb3 41.Qd4? B43+ 1-0

For those frustrated by the over-difficult recent problems, here is a relatively simple end-game finesse. White to play and win.

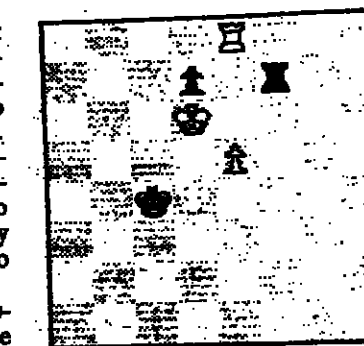


DIAGRAM 2

Solution: 1.Rd8 Kd6 2.e6 dxe6 3.Ka6 winning the Black rook 1-0

Solution to last week's cryptic brain teaser: 1.Nf6+ Kg7; 2...Kg6 2.Bc2+ Kxf6 3.d8Q+ 2.Nf5+ Kg6 3.Bc2+ Kxf6 4.d8Q Nf7+ 5.Kf6 Nf8 6.Kf5; threatening 7.Bd1+ mate 6...e2 7.Bd4; threatening mate with Bf3 followed by Be2+ mate 8...e2 9.Bd4 c8N 10.Bb5; mate threatened with Be8 10...Ne7 11.Bd4; forcing mate on d1. The first seven solvers at The Event were promised handsome prizes. They will be given a well-deserved mention in next week's column.

Fungus and pests make unwelcome garden guests

GARDENING

INEZ KLIMST

ANOTHER season of gardening is almost over. Now is the time to clean up the beds and get rid of the dead leaves and debris which have accumulated around the plants.

Neglecting this task is an invitation to trouble. Fungus, mold, and the eggs of pests must not be allowed to spend the winter in your garden.

Put on your gloves and get out the knee pads. This is a job which requires close scrutiny. Get a carton from the market and take it around with you. Take a pail along too. Into the pail put all the diseased leaves and anything which looks as though it has been chewed by bugs. When you are finished with this job, empty the pail into a plastic bag and carry it directly out to the garbage can. Clean out the pail with hot water and detergent.

Into the carton put clean leaves which have fallen, dead annuals, fallen twigs, etc. The contents of this box will go into the compost heap. Watch out for spots which might be mold. The rule in this case is "When in doubt, throw it out". You won't want to take a chance on spreading diseases next spring. I have suggested a

pail and a box, rather than two boxes, so that you will not accidentally mix the contents of the two.

Thin out overgrown perennials, and give some cuttings to your friends. Cut down the perennials which do not need thinning. Good air circulation in the winter months will discourage the growth of fungus. It is easier to prevent the problem than it is to cure it.

As time goes by, we become more aware of the need to avoid the use of pesticides and poisons in our gardens. Every year I find that I am using fewer of these chemicals. We now know the serious problems caused by the long-term use of poisons in the garden. They are a danger to pets and people, causing illness and even death. They kill birds, spiders, and the other helpful creatures which protect our plants. They travel down through the soil and into underground aquifers, into streams and into our drinking water. The danger increases every year. In addition, the chemicals are expensive. If you must use them, follow the instructions for their use very carefully. Don't multiply the existing risks by using them improperly. Make certain that you dispose of boxes and bottles containing leftover poisons with care and never reuse the containers.

This year, I hope we all try to

use fewer of these poisons and use instead some of the more environmentally friendly insect repellents. Recently I received a simple recipe for a non-chemical spray, which I had never heard of before. Next summer I plan to try it out.

"Garlic spray":

Cut a large clove of garlic into very small pieces. Add a liter of very hot water and let it stand. Keep the bottle tightly closed and use when needed. Spray directly onto the plant, not forgetting the underside of the leaves. If you can stand the smell, there's no reason why you couldn't use this spray on house plants as well. It is certainly safe to spray in the house.

This is an excellent time to buy your new bulbs. The nurseries have a wide selection. Put the bulbs into a paper bag, and refrigerate - but don't freeze - them for the next month or 6 weeks, at which time they will be ready for planting.

Before winter starts, check your rose bushes for suckers. If any have started out them out now. That way, they won't sap the strength of your rose bush when it is starting up new growth next spring.

The Wohl Rose Garden staff is offering a course on how to choose the right roses for your garden. The date is October 25, 1995 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The price is NIS 40. You must register by October 17. Call 637-233 for further information.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

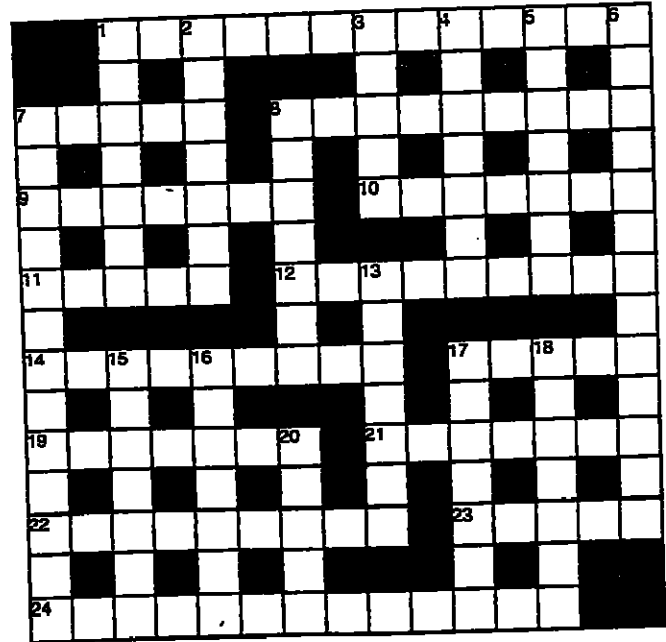
ACROSS

- 1 Practise how to don a glove (3,4,4,2)
- 7 Your argument reflected concern (5)
- 8 A Schubert composition? Capital! (9)
- 9 He's first in race after the leader (7)
- 10 Poles housed by Nazi minister who wrote poetry (7)
- 11 Like a pipe in garden of those needing water (5)
- 12 Ill-humoured painter disposed to hold me back (2,1,6)
- 14 Lost again recollecting times gone by (9)
- 17 Phoney is made to go back into the coach (5)

- 18 Blunders of a Dickensian beadle (7)
- 21 Crack appearing in the German fishing boat (7)
- 22 One weapon David had not brought back from London area (9)
- 23 The same unique family portrayed by Blackmore (5)
- 24 Flambe's a lad (5,2,3,3)

DOWN

- 1 Pets distraught Giselle losing the French and taking in backward British (7)
- 2 Give it at whirl to see if the cap fits (3,2,2)
- 3 Storage bags for rifles (5)
- 4 "See there the olive grove of..." (Milton) (7)



- 5 The hem has been raised to look really smart (5,2)
- 6 Husband supports personality creating ecological centre (6,7)
- 7 Supervisory duty given to sentries (8,5)
- 8 Covering a book is obligatory (7)
- 13 Leave a troupe no comeback (7)
- 15 I am also involved in Africa (7)
- 16 Getting fed up around midday (2,5)
- 17 Extravagant publicity to create cities in the air (5,2)
- 18 Bought fine feathers when depressed (3,4)
- 20 The material didn't stand out (5)

SOLUTIONS

YESTERDAY'S QUICK SOLUTION
ACROSS: 7 Cholera, 8 Beanne, 10 Outlook, 11 Taste, 12 Abut, 13 Inert, 17 Style, 18 Iota, 22 Error, 23 Niblick, 24 Bliddle, 25 Jaguar.
DOWN: 1 Scholar, 2 Rostrum, 3 Demon, 4 Perturb, 5 Coosa, 6 Refer, 9 Skindist, 14 Sterile, 15 Copious, 16 Tankard, 19 Deery, 20 Trade, 21 Absent.

QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- 1 Rather cold (6)
- 4 Conditment (6)
- 7 Risky (9)
- 9 Prudish (4)
- 10 Festive event (4)
- 11 Mixture (6)
- 13 Decorous (6)
- 14 Hypnotic state (6)
- 15 Be plentiful (6)
- 17 Mocks (6)
- 19 Native tent (5)
- 20 Upper-Austrian capital (4)
- 22 Brief note (4)
- 23 Killed one in ten (9)
- 24 Grow larger (6)
- 25 Vigour (6)

- DOWN
- 1 Body of writings (6)
- 2 Rich soil (4)
- 3 Per annum (6)
- 4 Cavilling academic (6)
- 5 Stopper (4)
- 6 Devastate (6)
- 7 Narrow-minded (9)
- 8 Ambled (9)
- 11 Outspoken (5)
- 12 Male bee (5)
- 15 Fascination (6)
- 16 Refused to obey (6)
- 17 Dignified (6)
- 18 Supercilious (6)
- 21 Greek 'z' (4)
- 22 Just (4)

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הכרזת איחוד

Belgium worth more than a stop for chocolate

WHEN we told friends we were going to spend 10 days in Belgium, we got one of two reactions: "Can you bring me some Belgian chocolate?" or "Why?"

It might be a mistake to skip Belgium, since there's so much more there than just chocolate. Belgium is a small country with well-preserved medieval towns, bustling cities, art museums, huge portions of French food, more than 300 brands of domestic beer, and perhaps most importantly, street vendors selling warm waffles (waffles) and frites (french fries).

And it is easy to see a great deal of the country in a short time, because three of its tourist centers - Brugge (Bruges), Brussels and Antwerp - are all about an hour from each other by train.

Belgium is an uneasy alliance of the economically depressed French-speaking Walloon area, known for its natural beauty, with prosperous Flemish-speaking Flanders, known more for its architecture and art museums.

Brugge, a city in the heart of Flanders, is made for meandering walks down winding streets and along canals. But don't get off on the wrong foot by speaking to the otherwise friendly locals in French.

Tourists are treated to buildings largely preserved in their original medieval condition, particularly in the city's two central squares, the Markt and the Burg.

The massive Belfry, a secular tribute to the power and riches of 13th century Brugge, dominates the Markt.

We climbed the 350 steps to the top for a panoramic view of the city's canals and streets lined with rowhouses. After we recovered, we treated ourselves to a large cone of frites with a dollop of mayonnaise at the friterie stand in the square below.

Although almost every street in Brugge leads visitors back in time and through expensive boutiques that cater to well-heeled tourists, the Zuidzandstraat is probably the ritziest, with leather goods, fine linen and rich chocolate shops on almost every block. Brugge is still known for its lace-making, and women in medieval

attire sit in the front windows of many shops, making lace by hand.

If you follow Zuidzandstraat from the Markt, you enter the 'Zand plaza full of outdoor cafes, touristy restaurants, modern Flemish sculpture and luxurious hotels.

And because Brugge is commonly known as the Venice of the North, an English-language, guided boat tour through its canals is a restful way to see many of the city's sites.

Another popular way to rest is in a bar with one of Belgium's many beers. You might want to try Kriek, brewed with fresh cherries and raspberry-flavored Framboise.

Ducking into a pub for lunch is also a way to keep expenses down, because many bars offer lunch and hearty snacks at considerably lower prices than do restaurants.

Taverne de Jakobijn, at Langestraat 54, has a menu of lunch foods from cheese trays to steaks.

Today, Brugge is one of Belgium's most popular tourist destinations, and the throngs of tourists can diminish its charm. During peak tourist season, hotel rooms might be hard to come by unless you reserve, but visitors can always make a day trip from nearby Ghent or Brussels, using Belgium's elaborate and inexpensive train system.

ALTHOUGH WE had images of diamonds, Orthodox Jews and Gothic architecture, we were almost shocked by how exquisite Antwerp, the capital of Flanders, is.

We got a close look at the history and workings of Antwerp's famous diamond industry by touring the Diamant Museum, in the heart of the diamond district (Diamant Museum, 31-33 deKeyserlei).

We also got a good look at the Jewish quarter during a quest for kosher deli foods for a picnic.

The most poignant moment was when we stumbled on a kosher deli with the words "Since 1933" on the awning.

Although the now vibrant Jewish community of Antwerp sus-



Brussels' Grand Place, the city's main square and hub of its pedestrian center.

(David Brauner)

We spent hours wending our way through the cobbled streets in Antwerp's center. Almost every corner held a delightful surprise, like the antiques shops along Minderbroederstraat, or the busy Spanish imports store, El Valenciano on Stoelstraat.

The biggest surprise came when we were looking for the waterfront and stumbled upon a neighborhood block where scantily clad women were displaying their human wares in picture-box windows along Schipperstraat.

The area had the feel of any red-light district, but a friendly bartender assured us it was safe. "It's a big tourist attraction," he said.

One of the sweetest areas we visited, Vleykensgang, or "Pie Alley," is a narrow winding path through one of the oldest remaining parts of Antwerp, just off of Pelgrimsstraat.

We sat for a rest on the benches, listening to the cathedral bells ring, while the intoxicating scent of apple pies wafted through the air. For research's sake, we verified that the aroma was from the famous Antwerp bakery, Popof, just behind the wall.

OUR disappointment at leaving Antwerp faded when we found Brussels' Grand Place, the city's main square and center of its pedestrian center, Ilot Sacre.

The Grand Place is even grander than either Brugge's or Antwerp's main squares. Its ornate guild houses including the Butchers' guild house where Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels wrote the Communist Manifesto in 1847, the Brewers' Museum, and - of great importance to today's tourists - a Godiva chocolate shop.

At the Tourist Office in the Hotel de Ville, we picked up a "Brussels Guide & Map" which guided us on several walks through the city.

(The Baltimore Sun)

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Tel Dan: A shrine, museum and nature reserve all in one

SEE IT HERE

HAIM SHAPIRO

HINTS of the breakaway Kingdom of Israel, a mysterious Egyptian cult, and faithfulness to the laws of the Torah are all to be found at Tel Dan and the nearby Beit Ussishkin museum.

The Dan Nature Reserve includes a large number of pathways - a few of them wheelchair accessible - through lush and verdant vegetation at the sources of the Jordan River.

There is such a profusion of water in the area that the ancient inhabitants devised a system of drainage channels in which the water ran through a complex of large rocks so that enemies could not gain access to the city through the channels.

The nature reserve also encompasses the excavations at the ancient site, including a wall and monumental gate and a shrine, which is apparently one of the two which the Bible recounts that Jeroboam constructed after he seceded from the southern kingdom of Judea.

The shrine itself is impressive enough, with its reconstructed walls and stairway and a large flat stone on which sacrifices apparently were offered.

However, to understand what went on at the shrine, one must visit Beit Ussishkin, where the smaller finds from the excavation are displayed.

According to the Bible, Jeroboam put a golden calf 000081h shrine. The archeologists found no

golden calf, but they did find two small figurines of Egyptian deities inside a jar.

The presence of these idols seems to provide some verification for a passage in the Septuagint (the ancient Greek translation of the Bible) which is not found in the Hebrew text.

This passage tells of an unsuccessful attempt by Jeroboam to lead a revolt during the reign of Solomon and of Jeroboam's flight to Egypt, where he remained until Solomon's death. Perhaps the Egyptian deities are evidence of the Egyptian influence on the northern kingdom.

On the other hand, in the pit surrounding the flat stone at the shrine are the remains of thousands of animal bones. These bones are clearly visible to the visitor, but what is not immediately evident is that all of the bones are those of kosher animals. Jeroboam may have dabbled with idolatry, but he appears to not have sacrificed unclean animals.

Beit Ussishkin also contains a large exhibit on the flora and fauna of the area. It also has an especially good audio-visual presentation on the history and geography of the entire area.

Both the nature reserve and the museum are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Each has an entrance fee of NIS 12; those who visit Beit Ussishkin first and bring their ticket to the nature reserve will receive a NIS 3 discount.

A week-long diet vacation to lose what was gained during the holidays

TRAVEL TIPS

HAIM SHAPIRO

WITH the holidays drawing to a close, some of us are beginning to think of dieting.

Mitzpe Hayamin, the health and beauty resort near Rosh Pina, is offering a series of week-long vacations, with a low-salt vegetarian and fish diet of 500 to 600 calories a day, accompanied by an exercise and relaxation program.

Meals are also available for non-dieters. Price for a diet week package starts at NIS 5,300 per couple.

A VISITORS' center has opened in Katzin in the Golan Heights, with information about available accommodation, restaurants, and opening hours of sites and attractions. The center is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tel. 06-962882.

JEEP OWNERS can now take part in a series of jeep tours in Machtesh Ramon and the central Negev available daily from Hadas Tours, Tel. 08-436882. For a three-hour tour of the crater, the price is NIS 75 for adults and NIS 60 for children.

EL AL now has a fax-in service for first and business class passengers and members of the King David Club. Passengers send the information on a special form and pick up their boarding cards at the airport.

TRANSAERO, WHICH flies between Tel Aviv, Eilat and Moscow, now offers businessmen the option of hiring their own

Tupolov A134 for flights to or within the former Soviet Union.

The plane - staffed by a pilot, flight engineer and stewards - can carry 20 passengers in luxury conditions. The price of a round trip flight to Moscow is \$25,000 to \$30,000, while a flight within the CIS is \$4,000 to \$5,000 an hour.

HOGMANAY, Scottish New Year's Eve, is being celebrated in a big way in Edinburgh this year with festivities from December 29 through January 2.

Some 250,000 visitors are expected for the activities, which are to include a street party and several live musical and theatrical performances along Princes Street, pipe bands and fireworks displays, all culminating in a torchlight procession and a fire festival.

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Labor's prodigal son negotiates his return to the fold

THE WEEK THAT WAS
MICHAEL YUDELMAN

WHEN Haim Ramon, one of the Labor Party's most promising young tigers, decided to run against his own party for the chairmanship of the Histadrut, a feather would have bowed over the reeling party officials.

"Ramon?" they gasped. "When did he ever show a flicker of interest in social issues - especially trade union issues and workers' concerns - which is what the Histadrut is all about?" An American equivalent might be if current golden boy Colin Powell veered off the presidential track to head the Teamsters.

It was too unlikely and, Labor pundits argued, Ramon must have a hidden agenda. Most likely, he had devised a shortcut to a national political career via the Histadrut leadership.

Nobody gave the Histadrut more than two years of Ramon's valuable time. Some predicted he would bail out even faster.

Labor pundits were only half-joking when they suggested that Ramon had seized the Histadrut job in order to hand it over to his buddy MK Amir Peretz.

Peretz, lacking Ramon's vote-pulling power, had failed miserably when he pitted his puny powers against the solid old Histadrut warhorse, secretary-general Haim Haberfeld, in the party's Histadrut primaries.

A lot of tea has since sloshed down the Histadrut's dusty corridors. Like a

fiery Roman run amok in Carthage, Ramon took the labor citadel by storm and Peretz was tossed the mantle of the trade union section. The rest, as they say, is history. And so is the Histadrut.

Pundits peruse plots, sketch scenarios, but rarely do they live to see the script acted live.

This week, Laborites rubbed their hands with glee as Ramon made his way to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office - to negotiate terms for his return to Labor.

A bare 15 months after his stunning election, Ramon is ready to ditch the Histadrut and seek a position more worthy of his status. It was an interesting interlude, but really, who has the patience for all those whining workers with their endless bleating about being fired, or minimum wages, or social benefits, or something equally, boringly tiresome?

And who will hold the Histadrut fort when the emperor journeys on to greater glory?

Why, that loyal captain, Amir Peretz. Who else?

REWARDED FOR FAILURE
Politics may indeed reward failing but loyal minions, as the Peretz case would seem to illustrate.

But, surprise, surprise. The Labor Histadrut faction is less than thrilled at gaining Peretz as the price for losing Ramon.

And what about the voters, did any one ask?

Had Histadrut members known when they voted for Ramon that ultimately they would be getting Peretz, would they have voted for Ramon?



Haim Haberfeld was a solid old warhorse when it came to the Histadrut primaries.



Rumors flew when Ramon ran against his own party; one semi-joke suggested that he did it to hand his post to Amir Peretz (right). (Israel Sam)

It seems more likely that they would have supported Haberfeld, as they did when offered Peretz the year before.

There is also the tiny matter of the campaign promises Ramon made that won the voters over. Wasn't there something about new, clean norms, proper conduct, open decisions, and no more secret wheeler-dealing?

Not that anyone in Labor will weep over Ramon's departing footsteps as they echo down empty Histadrut corridors.

"Good riddance," mutter the gatekeepers. "Perhaps we can still salvage

something from the Histadrut debris."

And Labor is unwilling to hand Peretz the chairmanship he failed to wrest from Haberfeld in a fair fight.

"Ramon spoke of enlightened norms and cleaning out the Histadrut stables when it suited him," grumbled one old-timer. "Now that it's convenient to himself, he is reverting to his old Mapai ways."

"This hush-hush deal with Labor leaders to put Peretz in his seat follows the old Mapai system he vowed to rid the Histadrut of."

"What, is the Histadrut chairman-

ship his own private legacy to bequeath to whomever he anoints?"

IF EVERYTHING'S SO GOOD, WHY IS IT SO BAD?

Ramon always said he would not leave the Histadrut before enacting all his pledges to the voters. His actions would not be affected, heaven forbid, by his own political agenda.

Now he wants out and claims to have wrapped up most of the revolutionary reforms he promised.

"Ahem..."

Is that timid cough an attempt by

someone to disagree? Of course not, most of the Histadrut leaders, do disagree, but not out loud - except, perhaps, executive member Binyamin Gonen, of the joint Jewish-Arab list. Hundreds of workers fired by Ramon have bones to pick - and not much else. Then there are the hundreds of thousands who find themselves paying more for fewer health services - known to Ramon as "the best health system in the world."

If things in the Histadrut are so wonderful that Ramon can now leave with a clear conscience, then how come they are so bad, ask senior Labor sources.

Two-thirds of the Histadrut's members have left and the federation cannot function, much less pay past debts.

And, ask the sources, if everything is so enlightened and democratic and transparent, why are most Histadrut executive members fearful of opening their mouths with even the slightest, teeny-weensy criticism of Ramon?

Labor old-timers love their anecdotes. Like the one about the Bokshviki functionary who arrived at a remote kollekh (collective farm) in the Soviet Union to give the villagers a talk.

After sounding off for hours about the great achievements of the socialist revolution, the commissar asked for questions. A man in the back row put up his hand. "If things are so good, why are they so bad?"

The next year the party official came once again to rally the toilers and then asked for questions. No hands were raised, but a squeak from the back row asked: "If everything is so good, then where is the comrade who asked the question last year?"

The season of repentance has finally arrived...10 years later

GRAPEVINE
GREER FAY CASHMAN

IT'S never too late to repent. Eva and Harold Segal, proprietors of the Israelite chain of stores, recently received an anonymous letter with an enclosure of NIS 60. The missive came from a woman who confessed to having shoplifted from their Jerusalem branch 10 years ago. She had done it for a lark, she wrote, and she had enjoyed it. But in the interim, she had become religious and her conscience dictated that she must pay for the pilfered merchandise.

DELAIED THREE times, the opening of the Jerusalem branch of Blockbuster Video Barn finally took place, coinciding with the telecast from Washington of the Oslo 2 signing ceremony. That did not put a damper on the festivities. People showed more interest in exploring video delights than in listening to the speeches and watching the handshakes. Among them were Israel Radio broadcaster Menahem Granit, who pronounced himself an incurable film addict and heaped praise on Super-Pharm managing director Leon Kofler for bringing Blockbuster to Israel.

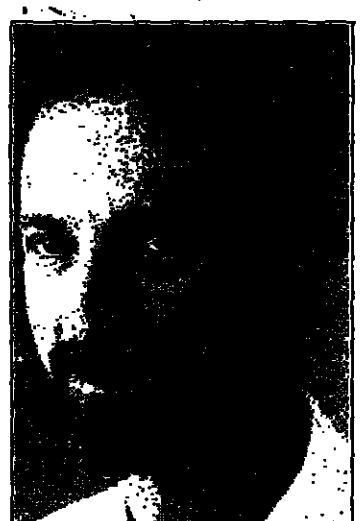
MANY EMPTY seats at the start of the Ramot Shapira 24th annual dinner at Jerusalem's Renaissance Hotel were explained away by the institution's founder and president, Rabbi Dr. Ya'acov Vainstein, who noted that such events are planned at least six months in advance.

No one foresaw that the date would clash with the presentation of honorary citizenship of Jerusalem to former cabinet minister Dr. Josef Burg or the memorial ceremony to mark 30 days since the death of former mayor Shlomo Zalman Shragai.

Both functions were attended by Ramot Shapira supporters who

missed out on the first course, but who made it in time for the main course and presentations. Those honored were Pina Herzog, who received a Distinguished Service Award for her work as vice chairwoman of the World Health Organization and president of World Emunah; and Canadian philanthropist and founder of the International Federation of Body Builders Ben Weider, who received a Leadership Award.

A family emergency prevented Weider from making the trip from Montreal. He was represented by his son, Eric, who read a speech which so carefully detailed Vainstein's achievements in education that the latter's



Dr. Josef Burg's dinner with Ramot Shapira supporters.

Steve Edwards is a veteran of the five years running Israel Broadcasting Authority's televised News in English. (Anat Jeronimski)

spontaneous reaction was: "Now, I wonder who was the guest of honor tonight."

Herzog, whose WHO status makes her the first Israeli to achieve a position of such seniority in any specialized UN agency, said it was not easy to be an Israeli in the international arena.

WHEN HE accepted the invita-



Dr. Vainstein explained away the empty seats at the Ramot Shapira dinner.

tion of his good friends Naomi and Isi Leibler to be the guest of honor at the Emunah-sponsored Jerusalem 3000 gala afternoon tea in their succa, Jerusalem mayor Ehud Olmert did not realize that he had a much more public commitment. According to his hostess, there was "a bit of a mix-up in his timetable." His staff had apparently forgotten to put the Jerusalem parade (which Olmert himself was hosting) on his calendar, and Olmert had therefore assumed that he would be free to spend part of Succot with the Leiblers.

When he failed to arrive by 5 p.m. guests started to leave. But Olmert believes in keeping promises to friends, and despite a heavy schedule he managed to show up at 5:20, by which time only a dozen or so people still remained.

Undeterred by the paucity of numbers, Naomi Leibler delivered the welcome speech which she had prepared, describing Zionism as "the right man in the right place at the right time." Champagne was duly passed around, and Olmert even allowed himself a few minutes to

sample the buffet before continuing on to his next engagement.

WITH THE politically oriented gearing up for next year's national elections, it came as no surprise that right-wing political activists Yael Amichay and David Medved turned their wedding anniversary celebration into a political rally.

The couple asked for no gifts for themselves, but encouraged guests to contribute to Zo Artzenu, whose founders Moshe Feigin and Shmuel Sackett were on hand to explain the power of nonviolent civil disobedience and to disclose what some of their next moves will be.



Vainstein's dinner clashed with Josef Burg's honorary citizenship fete. (A.Brutmann)

These include blocking any Palestinian Authority vehicles traveling within Israel; demonstrating outside the homes of police officers who use violence in quelling passive protest; and making it impossible for former right-wing Knesset members Gonen Segev and Alex Goldfarb to work. Among the financial supporters present was British philanthropist Conrad Morris, who said: "We're not the only meshugim who think that something is wrong with the fiber of Israel today. We must widen the



Ramot Shapira supporter Pina Herzog was rewarded for her work. (Karen Ben-Zion)

circle." Cyril Stein, another British philanthropist who has contributed generously to Zo Artzenu, was not there, nor were several Americans who are financing the cause. But they're all getting the message, which, according to Sackett, is being relayed on the Internet.

TWENTY-TWO years ago, Jonathan Davis and Dan Avron were two of a select group of elite IDF combat officers and soldiers engaged in intensive training for a mission so secret and so sensitive that most of the participants were themselves unaware of the purpose for which they were being prepared.

Only recently has the proposed operation for the rescue of Israeli prisoners of war incarcerated in a Cairo maximum-security jail been declassified. The mission was aborted due to the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War. Now that the identities of the people involved are no longer secret, some have begun to look for each other.

Davis and Avron did not have to go very far. Both are employed at the Hebrew University's Mount Scopus campus - Davis as the director for development and public relations and Avron as a

political science lecturer. The two got together to swap memories.

Leading figures in the planned rescue mission included Yonatan Netanyahu, who later lost his life in the Entebbe rescue mission, and a young man who rose to the highest post in the army and subsequently became a government minister. His name: Ehud Barak.

RENEWAL OF diplomatic relations between Israel and Nigeria has borne fruit in several directions, including public relations. Local PR man Moshe Trivaks was recently in Nigeria to give a series of lectures and PR workshops. To reciprocate, Alhaji



Zo Artzenu founder Moshe Feigin discussed future civil disobedience ideas. (IFPA)

Sabo Mohammed, chairman of the Nigerian Public Relations Association, will visit Israel at the beginning of next year.

While Trivaks was in Nigeria, he had absolutely no doubts that communication is the name of the game. This theory was put into practice by Gadi Golan, Israel's ambassador to Nigeria, who honored Trivaks with two receptions: one for PR people and one for journalists.

TALK ABOUT not looking a gift horse in the mouth. Likud

MK Shimon Shalom has gone one further. Shalom wants to get rid of the gift horse, and has proposed abolishing US loan guarantees to Israel. According to Shalom, the Americans are using the loan guarantees as leverage for meddling in Israeli politics. He doesn't mind the sacrifice if it will do away with the interference.

UPCOMING anniversaries in broadcasting. Tomorrow marks the fifth anniversary of the Israel Broadcasting Authority's televised News in English. Now that it's taken for granted, it's hard to believe how much lobbying went into getting it on the air. A run-down of members of the original team who have made it to the first half decade indicates that males have greater staying power. Of the initial nucleus of reporters, anchors and news editors, Leah Zisler, the only female to have survived the test of time, is heavily outnumbered by male veterans who include Steve Edwards, Steve Leibowitz, David Ewing, Len Brewer and Yohanan Elrom.

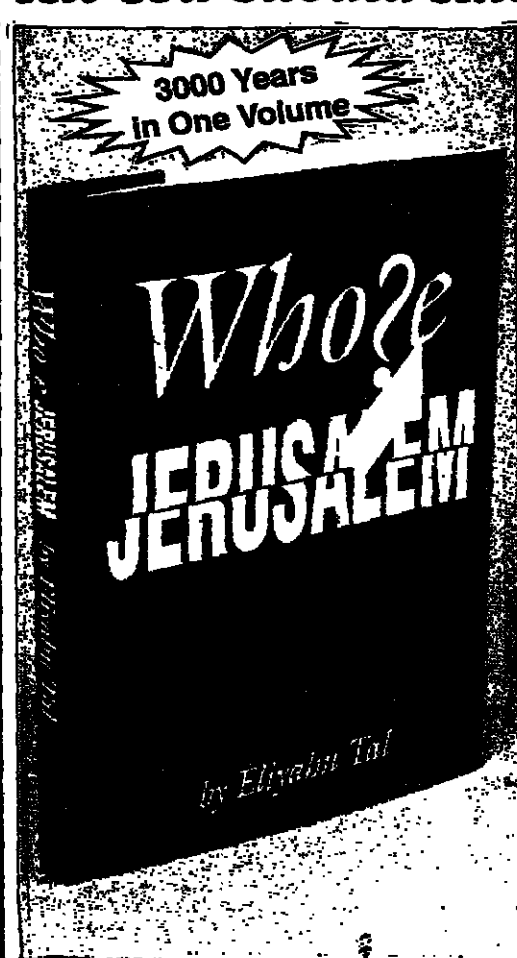
AND ON Sunday, Channel 2 can celebrate the eighth anniversary of its first - albeit illegal - news transmission. In October 1987, Channel 2 was still an experimental station and thus not permitted to relay news. However, journalists at the IBA were on a protracted strike and nothing would persuade them to cover the arrival in Israel of Yitzhak Rabin, the most celebrated Prisoner of Zion.

Gadi Yacobi, then communications minister, could not allow such an important historical event to go unrecorded by the electronic media, so he gave Channel 2 permission to cover her arrival. It did so with the help of Herzliya Studios and AIDS expert Yimor Shemkar, who was then a part-time reporter for Army Radio.

WHILE ON the subject of Channel 2, there are ructions among its council members. Outraged at implied aspersions on their characters, they are demanding the immediate dismissal of their chairman, Prof. Gideon Doron, following an interview he gave to the communications magazine *Tikshoret*. At a meeting with Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shetret, who has parliamentary responsibility for Channel 2, council members complained that Doron had sullied their collective reputations by stating that he was not sure whether council members represented the interests of the public, on whose behalf they were appointed, or whether they represented the interests of the franchisees.

ASIDE FROM catching up with relatives and friends, the key purpose of Sonia Hall's visit to Australia was to drum up business for Jerusalem's Windmill Hotel, in which her husband Fred is a partner and for which she does public relations. But Hall is also involved in several social welfare causes, primarily the battered women's shelter in Jerusalem. Aware that the hotel's occupancy rate is quite satisfactory, Hall diverted her energies to soliciting support for the women's shelter and found willing ears and generous hearts. Many of her acquaintances, who already support the Haifa center, promised to raise funds for the one in Jerusalem as well.

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STORAGE

STOREROOM

Amman-to-Jerusalem bicycle tour set to raise money, hope for children with cancer

JENNIFER MAY

TODAY marks the beginning of a unique charity event designed to raise money for children with cancer. The week-long Amman-to-Jerusalem Charity Bicycle Trek "Tour Peiper" will begin with the departure of 120 participants from Germany's Frankfurt airport.

The cyclists will arrive in Jordan tomorrow and begin a 700 kilometer route from Amman to Jerusalem via Petra, Aqaba, Eilat and north on the Arava Road.

The cyclists in this benefit are a varied bunch: over 120 physicians, government employees, businessmen, scientists and media personnel from Germany, who have already raised approximately DM 1 million. The group will be joined by 20 Israeli cyclists, "The Negev Riders" of Beersheva, at the border crossing in Aqaba. Israeli schoolchildren will join along the Arava road.

Tour Peiper is the brainchild of Dr. Fritz Lampert, head of the Peiper Center for Research of Children's Cancer at Geissen University in Germany. Dr. Lampert became interested in pediatric oncology as a young physician, when a 20-year-old patient in his care died within days of diagnosis.

"I was helpless," Dr. Lampert said. This shock stimulated his interest in what he called "a desperate field." Now, he adds, with advancements in the field of molecular genetics, two out of three children with cancer can be saved.

The event, which stresses themes of peace as well as the dire need to invest in cancer research, has attracted sponsors throughout this country and Jordan. Queen Noor of Jordan will present a \$250,000 check to the El-Amal Children's Hospital during the tour's stop in Amman. President Ezer Weizman will greet the cyclists at the end of their route to launch the Cancer Association's widely-publicized door-to-door donation drive.

The S. Dunhill Group, which recently opened a mountain bicycle factory in Beersheva, will also sponsor the tour with donations of bicycles and other equipment. Company president David Fisher, has also made a personal contribution to the humanitarian event.

Today, 135 out of every one million children have cancer. Proper diagnosis and early treatment of stricken children can help save over 50 percent of these lives.

Dr. Lampert, 62, who will also participate in the 700km trek, became interested in cycling as a means to raise money. "One must do spectacular things to raise money," he said. Biking is a "fantastic sport that gives joy" as well as good health, Lampert added, although he admits that golf remains his favorite sport.

For more information on Tour Peiper or how to contribute to research for children with cancer, contact the Cancer Association at 03-571-7234.

Learning to get in sync with Jordan

Luc Longley hoping for more playing time with Bulls

DEERFIELD, Ill (AP) - Michael Jordan hangs in midair, sees he has no shot, surveys the scene and fires a pass to Luc Longley in the lane. The basketball whistles through Longley's hands and goes out of bounds.

That kind of thing happened enough late last season for Jordan to playfully - but semi-seriously - say: "I told Luc that if he doesn't catch any more of my passes, I'm going to hit him right in the face with it."

Jordan is back in training camp with the Chicago Bulls, preparing for a full season after coming out of retirement last March. Longley is back, too, having signed a three-year contract before the start of camp.

With Will Perdue gone to San Antonio in the trade for forward Dennis Rodman, Longley is the Bulls' top center - meaning he and Jordan must learn to work together on the basketball court.

"I think I dropped three of his passes and he got frustrated and said something. But since then, it's been a non-issue," Longley said. "The first little while, I didn't expect all those passes from all those angles. But I expect them now and it's not too difficult once you learn to expect that from him."

When Jordan was leading the Bulls to three consecutive championships from 1991-93, he sometimes grumbled about then-Chicago center Bill Cartwright's inability to catch his passes. Jordan feels that when he drives to the basket and the opposing center picks him up, the Bulls' big man simply should move in position for a pass and then go up



Getting along with Michael (inset: Luc Longley)

strong for a dunk.

In reality, however, Jordan often shoots in such situations. And Longley - like Cartwright before him - has trouble knowing when to expect a pass or when to set up for a possible rebound.

"We're trying to understand each other as players. We're still

going through an experimental stage," Jordan said.

"He's got a lot of ability. But he's so conscious about being in the right place at the right time, it's kind of altered his natural instincts of catching and passing the ball. Once he gets more comfortable with where he's supposed to

be at all times, we'll see those skills show up."

The wait for Longley's skills to show has been going on since the 7-foot-2 Australian entered the NBA as the Minnesota Timberwolves' top draft pick in 1991.

Despite soft hands, a good passing eye, a decent shooting touch and a big body, his career averages are only 5.9 points, 4.7 rebounds, 1.1 assists and 1.1 blocked shots per game.

Longley has been both injury-prone and foot-prone, and he was hurt by a long holdout as a rookie. Playing in the troubled Timberwolves organization also probably stunted his growth as a pro.

"I had a bad start, and over the years I've just never developed that confidence or groove or whatever it is," Longley said. "I'm still trying to establish that. This is a good place for me to do it."

Bulls coach Phil Jackson agrees.

"In our style of offense, we need a center to hold the post and be a passer. Those are the best attributes of Luc's game," he said. "On defense, we need his big body to plug the gaps. Luc's got the ability to do it."

And Longley says he's got the desire - something critics say he's lacked throughout his career.

"It's a long way from Minneapolis, and even farther from Perth. On this team, with these people and these expectations, it's a big leap," Longley said. "I try not to be too concerned with what people expect. But this team certainly needs me, and I've never felt as excited about a season in my life."

NFL: Deion can join Dallas, but challenges pact

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The NFL will allow two-star star Deion Sanders to play for the Dallas Cowboys but said his seven-year, \$35 million contract must be restructured to meet salary cap rules.

Sanders will be permitted to play for Dallas as soon as he recovers from surgery to his left ankle but the contract will not be accounted for under the salary cap as the Cowboys intended.

Under Sanders' deal with the Cowboys, his salary during the first three years is at the league minimum of \$178,000 for veteran players while his stated average salary in the three seasons of the contract that are not currently capped (1999-2001) is \$5.5m.

"The CBA (collective bargaining agreement) is completely undetermined if contracts for superstars are structured with artificial, substandard salaries and outsized bonuses," Harold Henderson, the NFL's executive vice president for labor relations, said.

"Sanders' contract is structured to avoid counting under the salary cap a very large portion of the compensation which Deion is to receive for his services during the early years of his contract. In this respect, Deion's contract stands apart from every other in the league. In our view, the contract as currently structured involves salary cap circumvention."

Sanders is expected to be ready to play for the Cowboys' key game against the San Francisco 49ers on November 12.

Sanders hurt his ankle playing baseball for the Cincinnati Reds. He later was traded to the San Francisco Giants and had surgery when the team was eliminated from playoff contention.

National Olympic delegation growing in all fields of sport

THE blue-and-white delegation to the Atlanta has already reached 23 athletes who have passed the Israeli and international criteria. So far the list is Ran and Nir Chantal, Eli Zuckerman and Saar Behr (both in 470-Olympic class but only one pair to go); Gal Friedman, Amit Inbar (windsurfing, one to go); Oren Smadja, Yael Arad, Guy Fogel (judo); Yoav Bruck, Vadim Alexeev, relay team (swimming); Boris Polak, Guy Starek (shooting); Rogel Nahum, Danny Kraznov (athletics); women's

LOCAL SCENE

HEATHER CHAIT

gymnastics and fencing team.

An icy reception Local ice-hockey champions, Bat Yam, melted before the fierce competition in the qualifying rounds of the European Champions Cup in Herning, Denmark. Their losses were 2:10 to Herning, 1:11 to Estonia's Karmholm and a more respectable 6:8 to Lithuania's Anaregia.

Table tennis team slumps Three straight losses were also the fate of Israel's women's table tennis team playing in the qualifying group of the European Championships, level A in Slovenia. Their conquerors were Poland (4-1), France (4-1) and Slovenia (4-3) which left them straddling the bottom in their group. In December, Israel and France will compete against the two losing teams in the parallel group to decide which team drops to level B of the tournament.

VIRGINIA WATER, England (AP) - This is Lee Janzen's Ryder Cup.

Janzen, left off the American team as a wild card by captain Lanny Wadkins, showed he knows something about match-play golf with an impressive first-round 7 and 6 win over Japanese Katsuyoshi Tomori in yesterday's opening day of the World Match Play Championship.

European Ryder Cup teammates Bernhard Langer, Colin Montgomerie and Costantino

Match Play C'ship opens in England

Rocca - key players in beating the United States last month to regain the cup - won the three other first-round matches and face the four seeded players in today's play.

Janzen, No. 2 on the US money list and 1993 US Open champion, plays defending champion Ernie Els of South Africa.

Langer will play Nick Price of Zimbabwe, Montgomerie will face US PGA champion Steve Elkington of Australia, and Rocca goes in against Masters champion Crenshaw.

DOLE

(Continued from Page 1) effort to attract greater Democratic support for the bill and exceed the 62 sponsors the bill now has. Sixty-seven votes (two-thirds of the Senate) would be needed to override a veto that President Bill Clinton intends to impose should the bill be sent to him, and Dole has sought upwards of 75 as a sustainable majority.

It is unclear whether the changes will be made to the current Dole bill, or if it will be rewritten and resubmitted with new sponsorship.

Congressional sources say the developments are occurring now, because both houses hope to bring their bills to a vote before October 25, when a celebration will be held in the Capitol rotunda in honor of Jerusalem's 3,000th anniversary as the Jewish capital. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is scheduled to attend the event.

Officials of Americans for Peace Now, which opposes the current Dole bill, said they would remove their opposition if the compromise language is adopted. They stopped short of promising support for the new version, but said they would likely do so should language also be removed calling for the new embassy to be dedicated in May 1999, when the final status talks are to conclude, and if the bill instead calls for the embassy to open following the conclusion of those negotiations.

Economics Minister Yossi Beilin said yesterday he supports moving all embassies to Jerusalem, including that of the US. In response to Palestinian claims that the embassy move would affect the peace process, Beilin said: "Any time is a good time. The earlier, the better."

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PULLOUT

(Continued from Page 1) PLO officials said the time and place had yet to be determined.

Abu Rudeineh said they would meet to "discuss the latest developments concerning the crisis which arose."

There seems to be no basis to Arafat's contention that the IDF should have already started pulling out of Jenin, even though an accelerated timetable was agreed upon the morning of the White House signing.

While Arafat may be politically posturing for his domestic audience, there seems to be other issues which may be more heartfelt. He has not been mollified by the fact that Israel did violate its agreement by refusing to release four women prisoners. By a variety of different accounts, it appears that Arafat's meeting with Peres last Saturday night dealing with prisoners and the continued closure went poorly.

Arafat threatened to write complaining letters to all the countries that witnessed the White House signing. An aide to Arafat also issued what could be seen as a thinly veiled threat, namely that the

Palestinians are reconsidering whether to participate in the Amman-based Middle East economic summit, in response to Israeli delays in implementation.

The Palestinians have boycotted this week's planning meetings in Washington for the Amman economic conference in protest against IDF redeployment plans. Economics Minister Yossi Beilin said yesterday.

Beilin, in Washington to attend the meetings, said he spoke with PA Planning Minister Nabil Shaath by telephone Wednesday night and was told the Palestinians "are considering not participating in the Amman conference, because they are disappointed with the pace of IDF redeployment, that instead of leaving Jenin, the army is leaving only a few villages."

But Beilin said he believes that "in the end" the PA will attend the Amman conference, scheduled to begin October 29, because if they do not, "the only people they'll be punishing are themselves."

Pinkas Inbari contributed to this report.

RABIN

(Continued from Page 1)

whom its leaders call extremists. The problem is the Likud and its leader Netanyahu, who incites to hate - What we have here is nothing but clear incitement to violence, and the chief inciter is none other than Netanyahu."

Netanyahu responded by saying, "Labor has obviously launched a calculated, concerted campaign to discredit the Likud and me personally, and this despite the fact that they know full well that at every gathering I repeatedly ask that there be no physical violence and gratuitous verbal offense against Rabin and the government. They know that at every political event there can be extremist henchmen from the human fringe whom we can hardly control."

"The Left is displaying colossal hypocrisy, because they themselves not too far back did not ask their people to stop calling [Menachem] Begin and [Ariel] Sharon murderers and to attack them with the most venomous vituperation possible. So let these self-righteous, sanctimonious, hypo-

crises not lecture and preach to us now."

According to Netanyahu, "This clearly is an attempt to shut up the opposition and make our very dissent illegitimate. It is an attempt to turn public attention away from the government's dangerous policies and from the substantive issues. Perhaps it would do well for Rabin - who himself does not curb his tongue and excels at name calling and at insults - to take a good look at the situation and ask himself why it is that he is so unpopular and so unwelcome. Could it be that the public is really turned off by his policies, and Rabin would like to shift the focus of the debate and malign the legitimate, responsible, mainstream opposition?"

Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi argued last night that "Lunatics can attach themselves to the sidelines of any movement, and you cannot blame a whole movement for them. The Left is being disingenuous and hypocritical in its accusations. It is as if we had blamed the Labor Party and Meretz for such weeds in the beautifully manicured leftist lawn as [convicted spies] Udi Adir and Mordechai Vanunu."

CHRISTOPHER

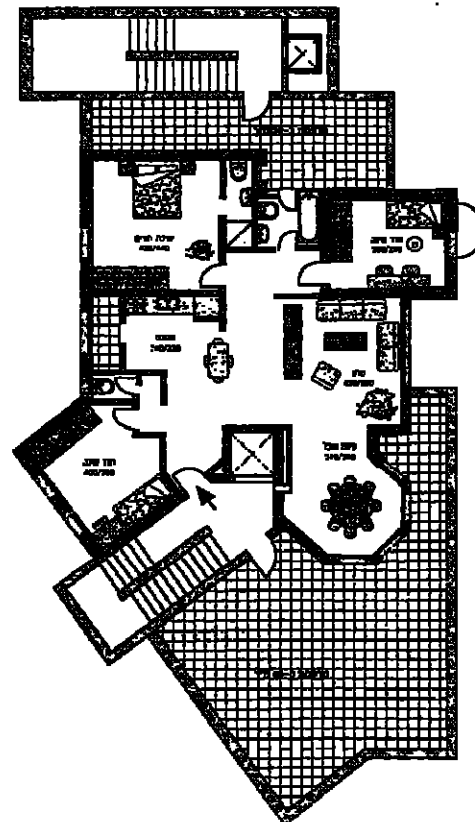
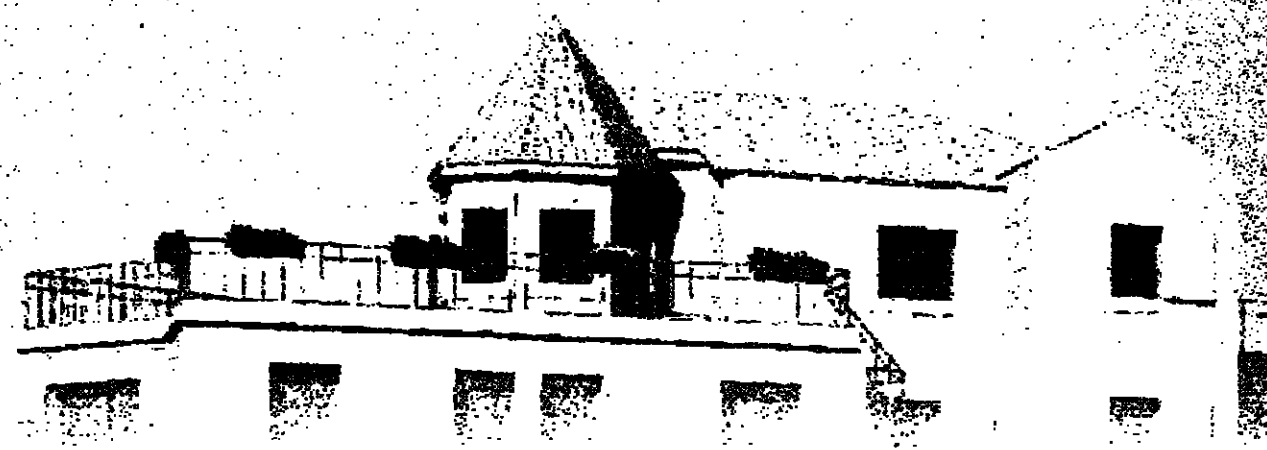
(Continued from Page 1)

Finally, Israelis detected "no give" in the rare interview that Assad gave to the Egyptian daily Al-Ahram published on Wednesday.

Channel 2 reported last night that President Ezer Weizman

tried to phone Assad last year, through Mubarak while Weizman was in Cairo. Mubarak attempted to make the call, but Assad refused to talk to Weizman. Since then, Weizman has tried a number of times to meet or talk to Assad but has been rejected each time, the report said.

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המקום האמיתי

MICHAL YUDELMAN

At a meeting with Rabin on Wednesday to discuss the terms

Commenting yesterday on Peretz's projection that Ramon would win 10 to 11 Knesset seats, Pinni Kabbalo, head of the labor council secretaries' forum, said, "With all due respect to Ramon, there is a difference between running against a stagnant Histadrut apparatus, which everyone agrees needs a transfusion, and running in the Knesset elections against other parties and alternatives."



HELEN KAYE

In 1989 he won first prize at the

Sado will receive \$25,000 and probably a host of concert dates

The prize will be awarded tomorrow night at the laureates' gala concert at the Jerusalem Theater.

Sado will conduct the Jerusalem Symphony,* which played throughout the competition's final rounds. The program is Bernstein's *Divertimento for Orchestra*, Mozart's *Symphony No. 40*, and Schumann's *Second Symphony*, all pieces Sado conducted during the competition.

JUDY SIEGEL

The courts recently allowed the public health funds to delay payments to hospitals because of serious shortfall in collection of

In addition, the IMA says the shortfall of health taxes has reached NIS 500 million. The government committed itself

Lines for prostate surgery, angioplasty, orthopedic implants and other expensive procedures are lengthening.

RAINE MARCUS

The father decided to install the camera in his apartment after he noticed his baby son had been "behaving strangely" and would scream when his parents touched him. His worse fears were confirmed when he checked the film, and saw that the woman he had employed to look after his son violently abused him.

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- * Rabbi Shimon Wehrmann Goldberg, Head of the Rabbinic Court, 12a Elkaneh, Jerusalem.
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- * Prof. Binyamin Ze'ev Fraenkel, Hebrew University, Physics Department, 26 Hachadash, Jerusalem.
- * Prof. Ze'ev Lowi, Hebrew University, Physics Department, 5 Hapigea, Jerusalem.
- * Prof. Yehuda Levy, Jerusalem College of Technology, 46 Bayit Veegin, Jerusalem.

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WEATHER

| Location | Temperature Range |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Haido | 17-25 |
| Tiberias | 17-28 |
| Akko | 15-25 |
| Samaria | 19-27 |
| Tel Aviv | 19-28 |
| Jerusalem | 13-22 |
| Beersheba | 14-27 |
| Eilat | 20-32 |
| Dead Sea | 21-31 |

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear, lower temperatures.
Shabbat: Little change.

[illegible]

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